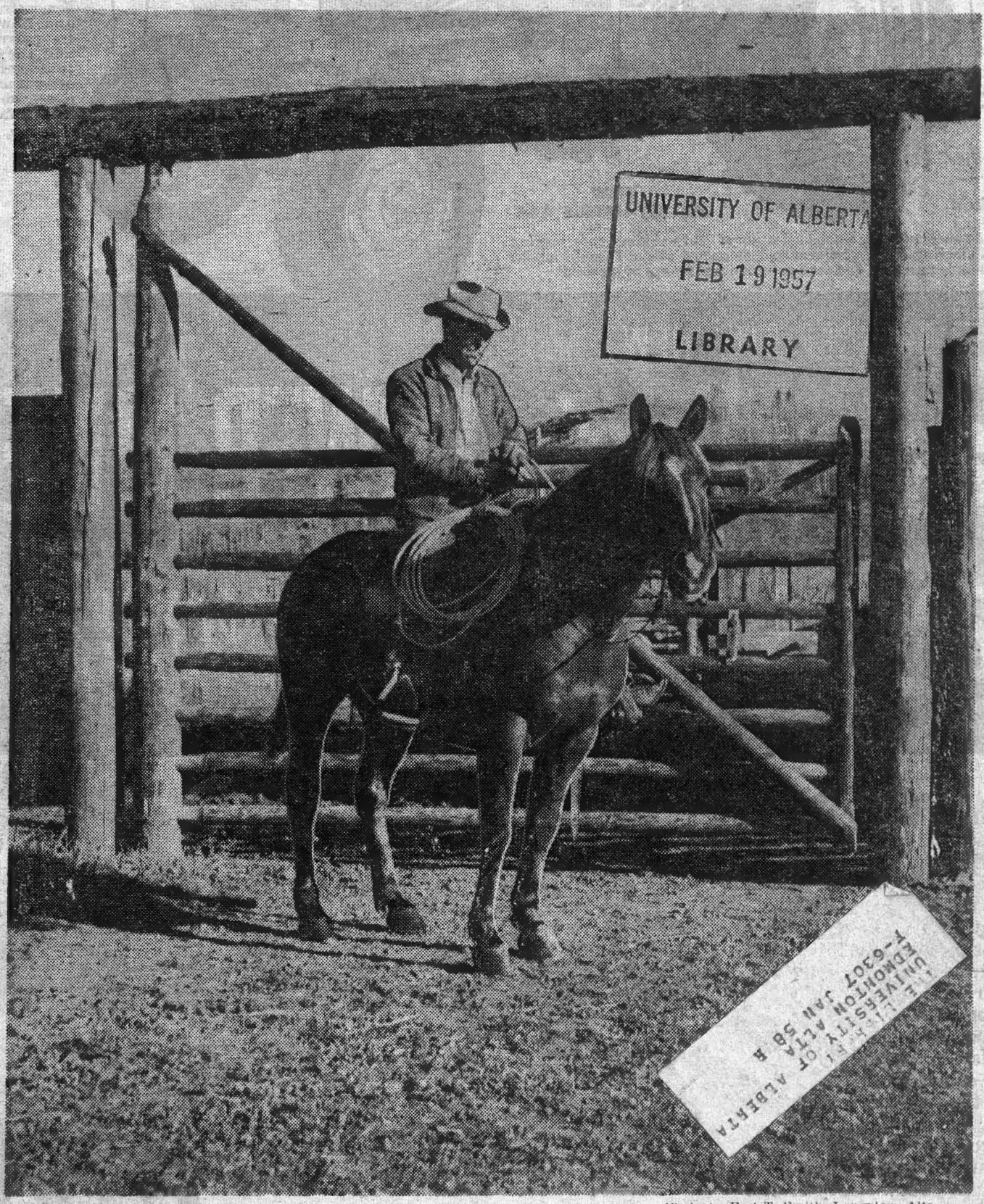
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Farm and Ranch Review

VOLUME LIII.
NUMBER 2.

FEBRUARY, 1957
CALGARY, ALBERTA

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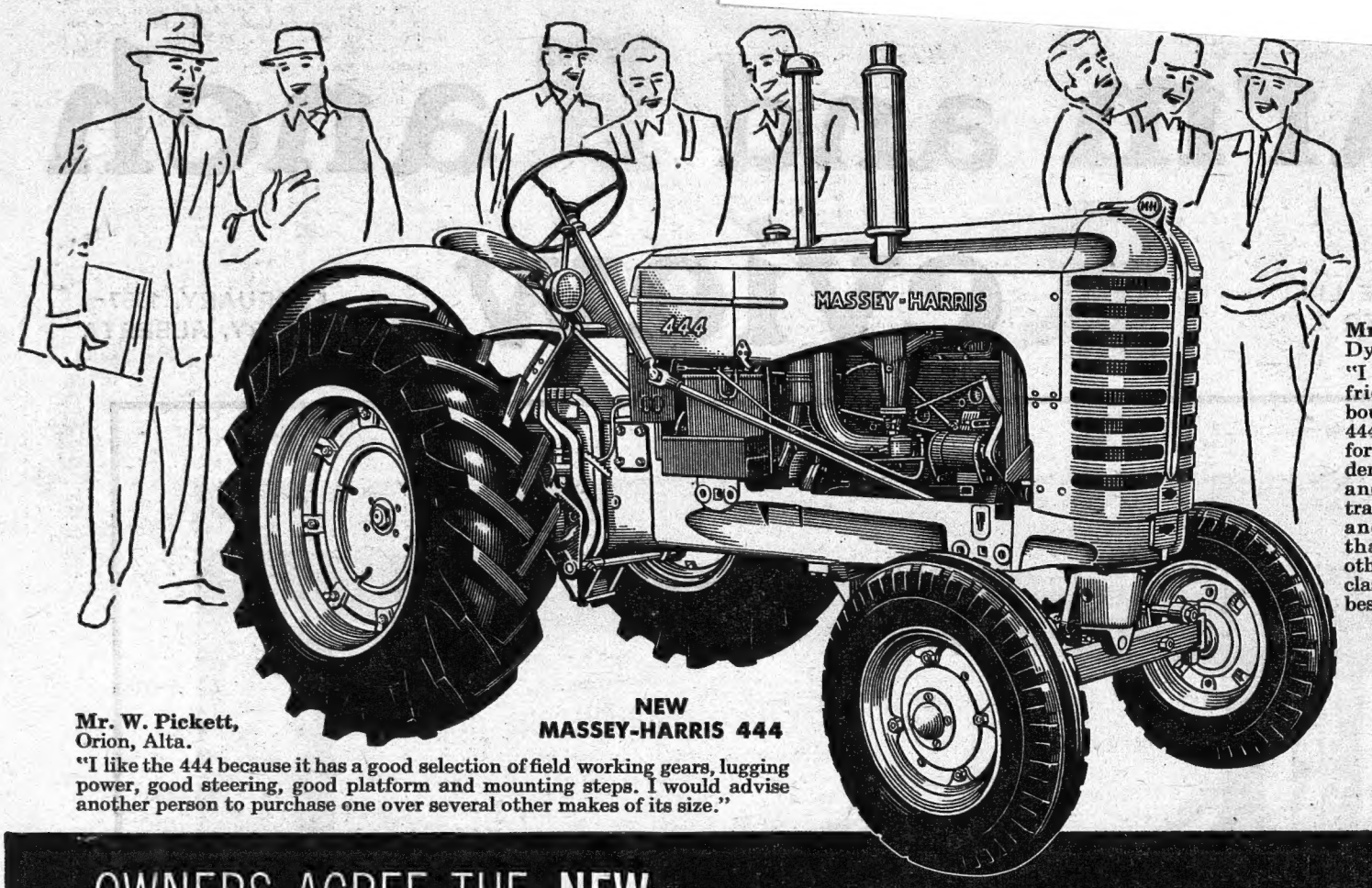


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Photo by Bert T. Smith, Longview, Alta.

Bert Sheppard, manager of the Rio Alta Ranch at Longview, Alberta, and quarter-horse-cross stallion, "Trinidad," bred by Matador Ranch in Texas, and raised by Parson Ranch in Colorado. See story on page 16.

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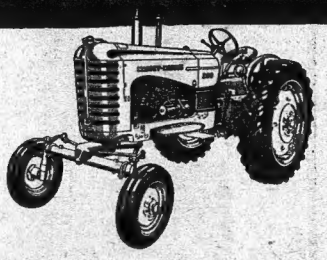
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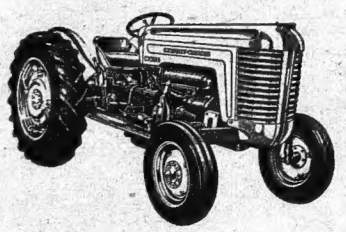
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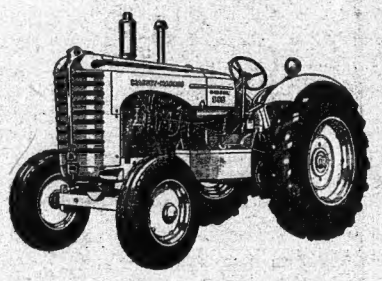


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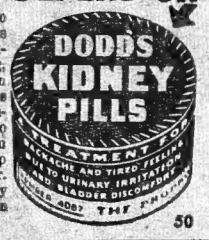
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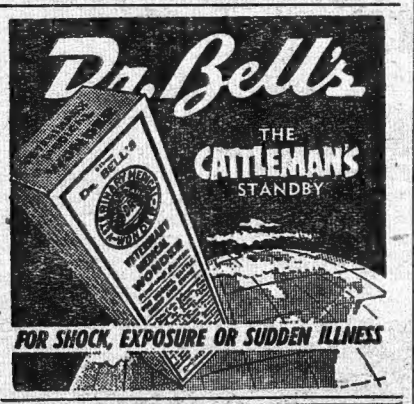
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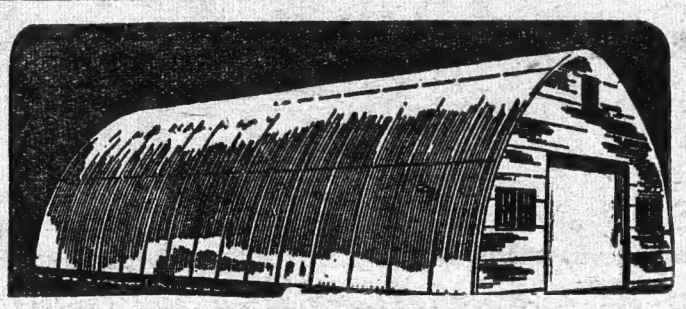
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MESSAGE TO READERS

Complimentary copies of this issue are going to some non-subscribers. If you are one, and you like the publication, why not subscribe ? The rate to farm people in Western Canada is only 50c for 5 years or 10 years for $1.00. To all others the yearly subscription is $1.00.

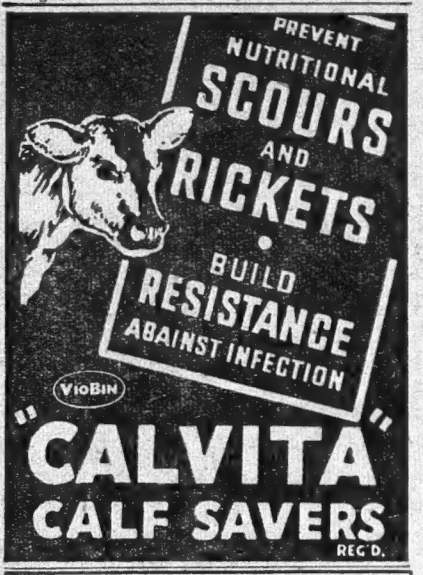
To regular readers I apologize for the omission of the "I Saw" column and the crossword puzzle. Paper shortage and an extra run of advertising were responsible. I am just as sorry about this as you are.

LEONARD D. NESBITT, Editor.



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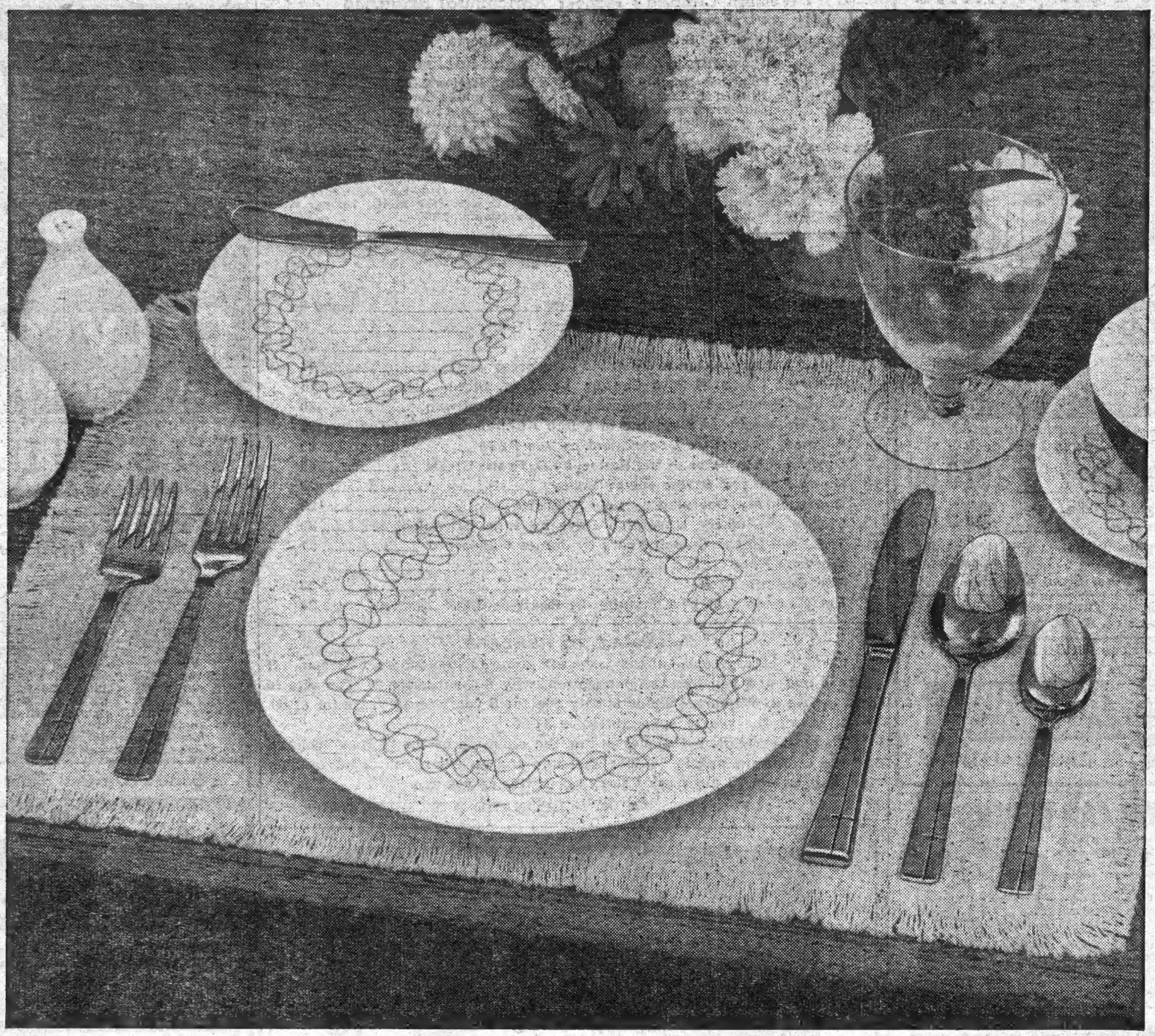
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Farm and Ranch Review Editorials

Who Won The Firemen's Strike?

IF any lingering doubt still existed in the mind of a single prairie farmer that the principles of labor organizers and agriculturists are compatible, it should certainly be erased by the recent rail strike.

It is difficult to decide which is the greatest outrage to our society — the union's contempt for the interests of others, or the government's breach of trust in selling out the country to win a few votes.

Only the government gained by the weak "settlement", but it has helped to nurture a monster which may one day come back to haunt it. The railways gained nothing, either in recovering the business lost during the tie-up, or in their desperate struggle to modernize and make ends meet. This certainly won't do anything to keep down freight rates. Labor gained even less on the stupid issue of making jobs and demanding salaries for jobs that are as dead as the dodo.

It's time labor pulled its head out of the sand and realized that this isn't the answer to progress. Even the dinosaur died out because he couldn't adapt himself to the changing times. Last but not least, our whole society gained nothing unless the publicly laying bare for all to see of labor's unjustifiable principles, could be turned to some good.

Apparently if labor organizers had their way, we'd be back in the horse-and-buggy days, with farmers plowing and sowing by hand instead of using machinery.

★

Individual Farming Is Most Productive

INDIVIDUAL peasant farms in Poland yielded 16.7% more food per acre than collective farms and 37.2% more to the acre than government-operated state farms. That statement was made by Gromulka, communist leader in Poland, in one of those outbursts of self-criticism which has been prevalent among communist leaders recently. Gromulka said the failure of collective farming has been concealed and the imbecility of agricultural policy had brought ruin to many individual farmers.

For many years we have maintained that the Russian communist agricultural plan was the one big weakness in that form of government. Before World War II, Poland was a substantial exporter of food. Since the domination of that nation by communists food production has steadily diminished. Poland became a food importer.

The same situation prevailed in Hungary, a nation which has been a substantial food exporter for generations. The Danube basin countries were Europe's internal "bread basket" and Hungary produced food in abundance. But hunger, as well as love of liberty, drove the people of that nation to revolt against the hated Russian domination.

Canada and the United States have demonstrated that the individual farm system is the most productive. Nowhere else in the world can such a small percentage of the population produce food in such superabundance. When farm land is in the possession of capable people it will be well looked after and maintained in a productive state.

★

Curbing Inflation Will Be Unpopular

INFORMED public opinion will do much to help combat inflationary pressures, says the president of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association. But Canadian people have had the experience of inflation for going on a dozen years now, and most of them like it. Inflation is relatively easy to start and very difficult to stop.

Inflation follows when there is too much purchasing power, either in the form of cash or credit, and a restricted amount of the things people want to buy. The value of money then declines and the prices of equities, goods and services advance. The value of the Canadian dollar has been halved since 1939.

During a period of monetary inflation the inclination is for people to get rid of money with little thought of creating savings. With the general price level rising steadily they find it profitable to buy goods of various kinds, also property, common stocks and other equities, instead investing in bonds and saving certificates. Those who have held bonds during the past 12 years have taken a financial "licking". Those who have bought property, good common stocks and other equities have done very well financially.

The increase in the country's population has also contributed to the inflationary trend. Since the end of the last war over a million immigrants have come to Canada. The birthrate has been on the uptrend, too, and the population increase since 1945 has been around 3½ million people. Increased population must have more houses, more schools, churches, public buildings, stores, service stations and so on.

When efforts are made to stem inflation trouble arises. Credit is restricted and made more costly. Debts accumulated under inflation must be paid for under deflation, which is a painful process. Manufacturers, merchants, suppliers, etc., who have enjoyed booming business, mainly through the extension of easy credit, discover that many of their customers have over-extended themselves and are cutting down on purchases, so business declines.

Since 1946 monetary inflation has persisted on a world-wide scale. The yearly rates of depreciation in value of the monetary units has ranged from 1½% in Switzerland upward. Since 1946 the Canadian money has depreciated at the rate of 4½% a year, in Great Britain 4.6%, in the United States 3.4%, in New Zealand 5.2%, in Australia 7½%. In other nations the depreciation has been more drastic, for instance Chile's monetary unit has gone down at the rate of 25% a year.

The people who suffer the most under inflation are those on low wages and salaries, those on pensions and bondholders. It should be understood that the biggest bondholders are the insurance companies and the various pension funds. Most wealthy people took good care to place their money in equities. Farmers who produced large surpluses have not fared so well. Inflation is only effective in periods of scarcity.

The current effort of governments to stem the inflationary trend may have salutary results. However, as mentioned previously, there will be strong objections taken by people whose interests are even temporarily injured. But unrestricted inflation always destroys itself and the results to a nation in the end are calamitous.

★

What Can Be Done About Wheat Acreage?

THE difficulty in planning for grain production can best be appreciated by the extreme variations in yields per acre in past years.

In 1937 the prairie provinces had 28,720,000 acres under wheat and the total yield was only 156,800,000 bushels.

In 1956 the acreage seeded to wheat in this area was 20,812,000 and the yield 516,000,000 bushels.

With around 8,000,000 less acreage under wheat in 1956 production was nearly 360,000,000 more than it was in 1937.

The weather is the main controlling factor in wheat production. If ample rains fall at timely intervals a bumper crop will be harvested. If there are droughty conditions in the latter parts of May and in June there will be a skimpy crop.

The Gordon Economic Commission has recommended that acreage quotas for wheat be put into effect, and that cash advances be made on wheat stored on farms. An acreage quota system was operated in 1943, the authorized wheat acreage being 65% of the wheat acreage in 1940, and marketing was restricted to 14 bushels per authorized acre. The 1943 crop turned out to be a small one — 267,800,000 bushels from 16,400,000 acres — so the delivery quota was raised to 18 bushels an acre and finally all restrictions were removed.

At the commencement of the present year Canada had around 800,000,000 bushels of surplus wheat, which will either have to go to export or carryover. On the same date the U.S. surplus was over a billion bushels. A poor crop in this country this year is not to be desired, but another half-billion-bushel wheat crop would create the greatest congestion in storage that this country has ever seen.

★

Western Canada is becoming more aware of the need for the development of industrialism. Premier Douglas, of Saskatchewan, is heading a campaign for more industries in that province. The slogan is "build from within".

The Future Of The Small Farm

WITH the majority of agricultural economists and experts urging small farmers to leave the land and go to the cities, perhaps the federal government's veterans' land plan was a mistake. Many thousands of veterans of World War II have been located on farms ranging in size from 160 to 480 acres. The government of Canada has invested around $300,000,000 in small farm aid to these veterans. Now we are told by people in responsible positions that farms of that size are uneconomical.

If such is the true state of affairs where were the experts when the Veterans' Land Act was passed? Why was the government not told it was making a serious mistake by locating veterans on farms? Is the whole expensive plan to fail and the veterans have to waste years of their lives ? If such is to eventuate the experts should tell the veterans on land act farms to prepare to move.

But we have always held the belief that there is room, and a need for, the family-size farm. We have a suspicion that industry is being over-built and that jobs in cities are not likely to be as plentiful in the future as has been the case for some years past. We believe that an efficiently operated small farm, on which the owner specializes in one or two main activities, will provide a good living for a farm family and a degree of security unobtainable in cities for most people.

★

The Problem Facing Farm Organizations

OF all classes in the national life the farmers are the most difficult to organize. The very nature of their occupation tends to make them individualistic. They operate on far-spread farmsteads, some with large acreage and some with small. Some specialize in a single productive enterprise and others conduct a greatly diversified operation.

Farmer organizations in this country have a difficult task in maintaining memberships. It is only when circumstances become really desperate that any substantial degree of unanimity develops. Most farmers accept the fact that strong, well-financed and well-managed farm organizations are needed. But the urge does not seem to be sufficiently deep to impel the mass of the farmers to join up from year to year.

At the Alberta Farmers' Union convention a resolution was passed favoring the licensing of all farmers in the province. If that is brought about all farmers would have to belong to a single organization. Labor and the professions follow that line. But before any concrete steps can be taken towards licensing all farmers, the great majority of them will have to favor the proposal. No government will grant such powers to a single body unless it is convinced that the plan is favored by a large majority of those directly concerned. The task of the Alberta Farmers' Union will be to educate the opposition to the idea.

To popularize itself with the farm people the Alberta Farmers' Union will have to expand its efforts into fields that will provide direct benefits for its membership. The activities of the Farm Bureau organizations in the United States can provide examples of what can be done for farmers. Passing resolutions at conventions and sending delegations to interview governments is quite in order. But activities, in our opinion, should go far beyond those measures.

The political field is enticing because it provides a degree of excitement. But it also provides the kiss of death. The defeat of the Farmer Government of Ontario ruined the United Farmers of that province. When the Farmer Government of Alberta was extinguished by the Social Credit party, the United Farmers of Alberta collapsed. A farm organization should build for permanency.

A farmer organization should put itself in a position wherein it can render practical services to its membership, such as he can make use of in a personal way. By such methods, we believe, a loyal membership can be maintained and activities in the broader areas of provincial and national fields can be enlarged.

★

Farming Is 80 Centuries Old

FARMERS were growing food crops in Mexico 8,165 years ago, according to discoveries made by a Canadian-United States scientific expedition. In a cave in the Mexican province of Tamulipas, a lima bean pod, a squash and the rind of a gourd were found. Through an examination of the genetic makeup it was demonstrated that the vegetables were domesticated agricultural plants. By means of a method of measuring time by radio-active carbon analysis, the period in which the prehistoric farmers lived was established as 6,200 B.C. The expedition to Mexico was headed by Dr. R. S. MacNeish, chief archaeologist of the National Museum, Ottawa.

Several years ago an archaeological expedition from the University of Pennsylvania dug up thousands of primitive farm implements in Northern Iran, near the Caspian sea. These included sickle blades for cutting grain, milling stones for grinding, and a great deal of other evidence indicating that grain growing had been on a fairly extensive scale, and also the domestication of animals. Using the same method of dating the discoveries as mentioned above, it was established that they were in use about 8,000 years ago, or approximately the same time as agriculture was practised in Mexica.

★

The Start Of The Credit Union Plan

THE Credit Union movement on the North American continent originated in the province of Quebec some fifty years ago. Alphonse Dejardins, a parliamentary reporter, shocked by the revelations concerning the operations of loan sharks, as made to a parliamentary committee, set out to teach people how to be their own bankers. He made a study of the European co-operative movement and adopted its principles in forming the first credit union on this continent.

Money was a scarce article among the French Canadian people at the beginning of the present century. Income was low and credit was restricted. By buying a share of stock in a credit union and depositing as little as ten cents a week, thrift was encouraged, and cash was made available for loans at interest rates running from 5 to 6% and the Credit Union movement got under way. It broadened its interests by going into other lines of co-operative effort and grew into a quarter-of-a-billion-dolar banking business.

The idea attracted the attention of people elsewhere and spread into the United States as well as across Canada. Through credit unions people use their collective financial resources to create substantial savings and a source from which borrowings can be made at a reasonable rate of interest, with the net earnings reverting to the membership.

This useful movement has flourished in English-speaking North America to the extent that its financial resources run into hundreds of millions of dollars. The participants therein have been taught the value of saving, and have also been in a position to borrow money at reasonable interest when necessity required.

★

Red And Yellow Easter Seals

ALBERTA people are urged to buy Red and Yellow Easter Seals to assist in the work being done by the Children's Hospital Aid Society for the Alberta Red Cross Crippled Children's Hospital. These seals will be in the mail shortly.

No public effort has done more for the crippled children of Alberta than the Red Cross Hospital, and the women of the Hospital Aid have made a substantial contribution to the Hospital. Every nickle they raise is devoted to the work.

Quite a bit of the money raised by the Hospital Aid has come from a yearly Easter Seal campaign. However, in recent years another organization with headquarters in Eastern Canada and ample funds for publicity purposes has invaded Alberta with Easter Seals of its own. This has had some effect on the Hospital Aid campaign for some people are likely to accept the eastern seals thinking they are helping Alberta crippled children.

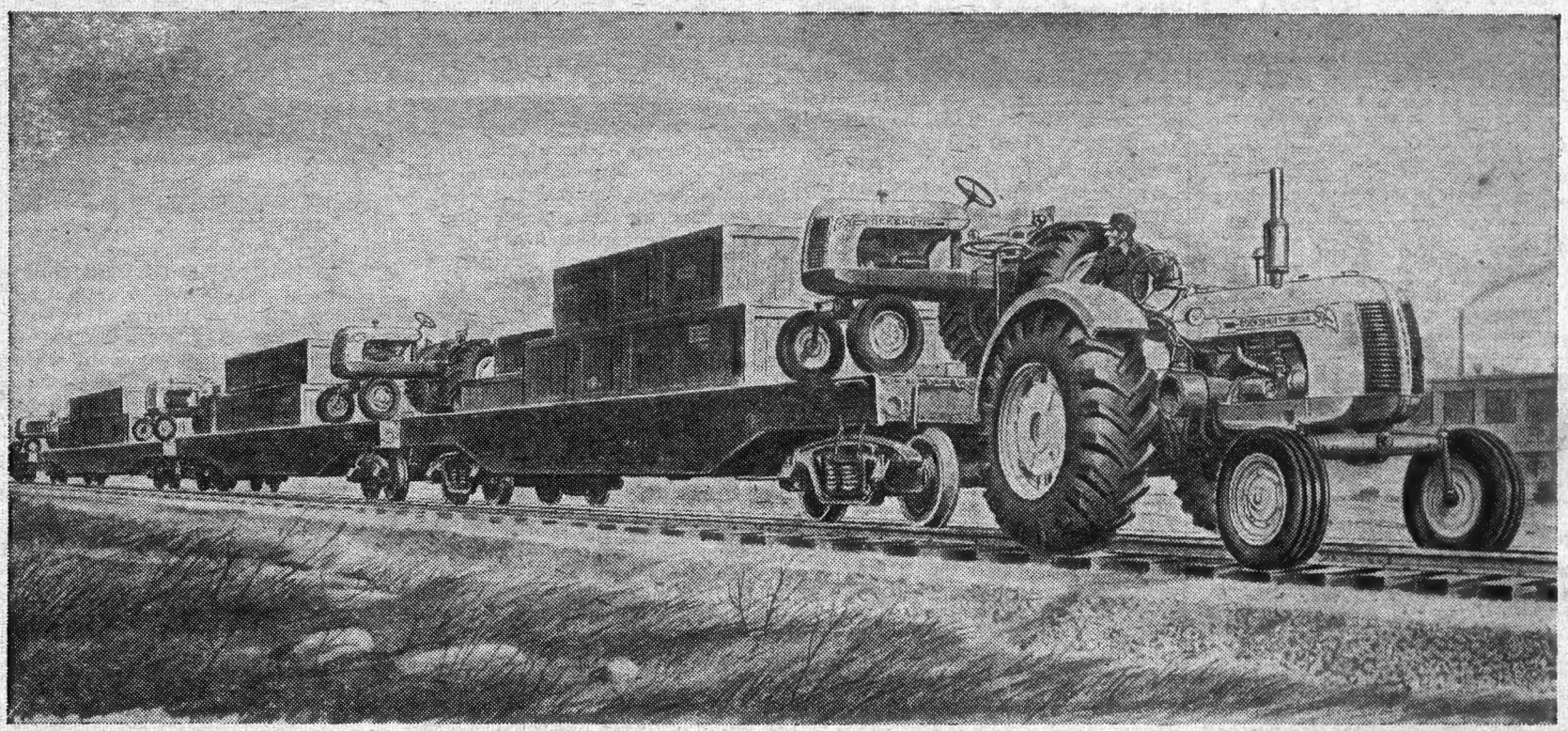
We suggest that Alberta people should stay with the Alberta Children's Hospital Aid and buy the Red and Yellow Seals. The Alberta Red Cross Hospital accepts cases where orthopedic treatment is required, where parents are unable to meet the expense of hospitalization or medical care, or would be seriously burdened in so doing; also any case for which orthopedic treatment cannot be obtained elsewhere in Alberta, and where the child in under sixteeen years. The medical staff contributes their services free of charge. Included is every type of specialist — orthopedic, pediatricians, anaesthetists, dentists and so on.

Be sure and buy the Red and Yellow Seals.

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record-breaking performance



This Cockshutt "50" is shown at work at the Cockshutt factory yards moving a trainload of heavy farm equipment. (Even when empty, a single flat car weighs about 65,500 pounds.) This is a standard Cockshutt "50" — not a specially "beefed-up" model — and it handles such chores as this as a matter of course.

MIGHTY COCKSHUTT *POWER* DOES WORK OF LOCOMOTIVE

Usable Power! That's the key to the workload your tractor can handle. And usable power is the key to the record breaking performance you get with the mighty Cockshutt "50". Witness the tremendous chore the Cockshutt "50" illustrated above handles with ease! It takes a tractor with "muscles and guts" to haul a trainload of heavy farm equipment — but that's the kind of tractor you get in a Cockshutt "50". It's Big — It's Powerful — It's Terrific — designed right — built right for the rugged heavy duty jobs — yet it's extremely flexible, economical for the small jobs too. *You* aren't going to be hauling trains on your farm. But *your* work is going to demand a reserve of *usable power* for those really tough jobs. You'll have to look long and hard to find any job too tough for this great new Cockshutt "50" — And this same power capacity characteristic holds true in each of the other 7 Cockshutt models!

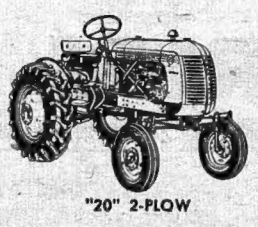
You'll like these new Cockshutt tractors for '57 — You'll like the bold racy distinction of spectacular two-tone color styling behind which you'll find the muscles of more usable power.

Up there behind the wheel — sitting relaxed in the new comfort ride tractor seat — you'll find a brand new conception of tractor performance — a "new car" all-day handling ease with welcome new conveniences such as new power steering — new hydraulic controls to provide new fingertip control in all field conditions. Yes, there's a new trend in tractor design — in tractor performance — in tractor values. It's the *Cockshutt trend* as introduced by this great new COCKSHUTT Deluxe line.

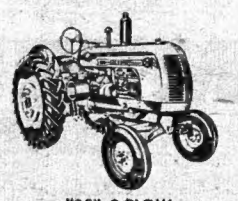
Make your farm work easier, faster, cheaper with a Cockshutt

Cockshutt
Farm Equipment Ltd.
BRANTFORD, ONTARIO

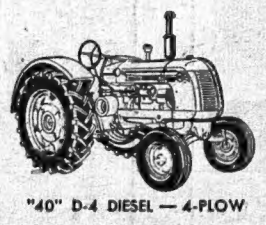
MAKERS OF A COMPLETE LINE OF QUALITY IMPLEMENTS FOR 118 YEARS



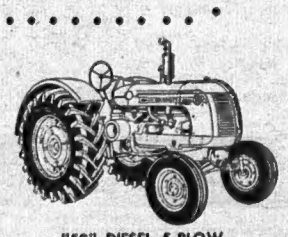
"20" 2-PLOW



"35" 3-PLOW



"40" D-4 DIESEL — 4-PLOW



"50" DIESEL 5-PLOW

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'Churn Brand' Feeding Bone Meal
Steam digested and sterilized
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... thousands report. Blessed relief from years of suffering from poor hearing and miserable ear noises, caused by catarrh of the head! That's what these folks (**many past 70**) reported after using our simple Elmo Palliative HOME TREATMENT. This may be the answer to your prayer. Nothing to wear. Here are SOME of the symptoms that may likely go with your catarrhal deafness and ear noises: Mucus dropping in throat. Head feels stopped up by mucus. Mucus in nose or throat every day. Hear — but don't understand words. Hear better on clear days — worse on rainy days, or with a cold. Ear noises like crickets, bells, whistles, clicking or escaping steam or many others. If your condition is caused by catarrh of the head, you, too, may likely enjoy such wonderful relief as many others have reported during our past 18 years. WRITE TODAY FOR PROOF OF RELIEF AND 30 DAY TRIAL OFFER. **THE ELMO COMPANY**
DEPT. FFR-2 DAVENPORT, IOWA

Big Capacity... HEAVY DUTY
Jayhawk HYDRAULIC LOADER

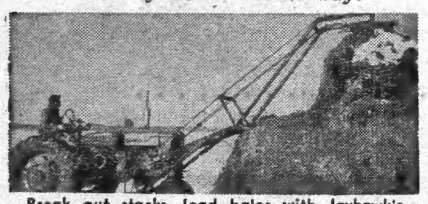


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The Faith And Hope Of The Pioneers

By ANNIE L. GAETZ

COURAGE and optimism were the outstanding characteristics of Pioneers of early Alberta. In coming to this raw and unsettled country, they expected hardships and discouragements; but they were prepared to cope with these draw-backs, and they were confident that with hard work they would make a success of the venture. It was this spirit which enabled them to look beyond their hardships into a brighter future.

In 1884, Rev. Leonard Gaetz, D.D., with his wife and ten children, settled on a homestead where the greater part of Red Deer now stands. As a Methodist minister, he had been stationed at some of the largest churches in Canada; but in 1883, he suffered a nervous break-down, and was obliged to seek a new way of life to provide for his large family. His thoughts turned to the West, as a land of opportunity, and that summer he journeyed as far west as the steel would take him, a point between Moose Jaw and Medicine Hat. Here he was met by Chief Factor Hardisty of the Hudson's Bay Co., who drove him overland as far as Edmonton and Sturgeon Creek. Of all the country he traversed, none pleased him like the Red Deer district, which he called the Park Country, and to this district he brought his family the following spring.

Dr. Gaetz put all his enthusiasm and energies into farming, and he soon became one of the leading authorities on western agriculture of his time. In 1890, contractors McKenzie & Mann applied to the federal government for money as well as land grants, to enable them to build the railway from Calgary to Edmonton. They were refused this assistance, because of lack of knowledge of the country through which the railway was to run.

In Feb., 1890, Dr. Gaetz, who had ben in the country as a farmer for almost six years, was called to Ottawa to testify before a government committee on Colonization and Agriculture as to the fertility and resources of the country north of Calgary. This report, dated Feb., 1890, was printed in pamphlet form and distributed by the committee on Colonization for publicity purposes. Many of the pioneer farmers of the Red Deer district, came west as a result of information gained from that report. It is doubtful if there is a printed pamphlet of that report still in existence, but a few extracts from a typed copy of the report of 1890, might be of interest in comparison with farming results today. Here they are:

Records of Production

"It does not take very great skill to raise cattle which at twenty-eight or thirty months will dress, without an ounce of grain, 650 to 700 lbs. of beef, or a three-year-old, 800 to 850 lbs. I am speaking of what I have seen and am testifying to what I know by personal experience. It does not take a great deal of skill in farming. Even a novice like myself in average years can grow oats 50 to 75 bushels per acre and weighing 40 to 50 lbs. per bushel; barley, 45 to 55 bushels per acre, and weighing 54 to 57 lbs. per bushel; wheat, 35 to 40 bushels per acre, weighing 62 to 64 lbs. per bushel; black barley, 35 to 40 bushels to the acre, weighing 60 to 68 lbs. per bushel. We have grown 400 bushels of potatoes and 700 bushels turnips to the acre. I may say I have seen greater things than these, but I am not talking about what is phenomenal under very exceptional and favorable circumstances; but what I believe the average farmer can do with average care and application, five years out of six, in Northern Alberta (now called Central).

"I have known yields of 83 bushels per acre of Welcome oats, and I have seen 90 bushels grown at Red Deer. A man at Fort Saskatchewan raised 115 bushels per acre, and gave a sworn statement to that effect. I am perfectly aware that men from that country are suspected of being able to tell big stories.

"I have taken the trouble to bring my bondsmen with me, in the shape of grain samples, and I will leave practical farmers to say whether the collaterals are worthy of being accepted or not. I am bringing samples produced from my own farm, grown by one who has no exceptional skill in farming. Some are samples of crops of 1888, and some of 1889. When we have a country that will produce such grain as these samples, and the number of bushels per acre, I can safely leave it to the committee to say whether there must be something favorable in the soil and climate where such products may be reaped.

Farming Possibilities

"I have seen wheat and oat straw that grew five and a half to six feet, and well headed and filled with plump grain. L. A. Hamilton, Land Commissioner for the C.P.R., now in Ottawa, will attest to the fact that in 1889 I sent to the C.P.R. car, wheat six feet two inches in the straw, with large heads averaging four and one-half to five inches in length. I do not say that Northern Alberta is a perfect paradise, that there are no drawbacks or disadvantages. I will not say that there is nothing the farmer has to contend with, no difficulties, no anxieties in the matter of crop production, but I will be very glad indeed if any gentleman here can tell me, where on the face of God's earth there are not some difficulties and disadvantages to be contended with in farming. I have closely examined into the matter and I do not know a spot on earth, either south or north of the 49th parallel where I would rather take my chances in the industry of farming than in Northern Alberta. I am telling you of a section of our great country as I know it. I have been there six years, long enough to have formed a judgment as to its character and capabilities and therefore I feel that I have a right to speak with some assurance. My motives for coming to the country were varied — poor health, poverty and a desire to keep my children around me.

Need for Experimentation

"I feel we are already indebted to the East for many acts of generosity, bit it seems to me we are just where a child gets sometimes — when an extensive swaddling band has fallen down around his feet. I want this committee and honorable body of men to say, of this western child: 'Loose him and let him go.' Do it by bonusing railways with cash as well as land. Give us railways to open up the country and I give you my word of honor that you will find it settling up faster than any part of Manitoba or the Northwest have been settled up. It is more self-contained and more self-sustained and has more of the elements of success than the other parts of the west. We are under great obligation to the minister of agriculture and parliament that sustained him in the establishment of experimental farms. This Ladoga wheat, a sample of which I have here, is a matter which has laid us under great obligation, because it put within our reach an early maturing variety of great merit. So with other grains and small fruits. Very few of the settlers have the time or the means or the intelligence to experiment for themselves, so as to enable them to conduct their farming operations intelligently, for I maintain it is just as necessary to exercise intelligence in regard to farming as anything else.

The day was when it was thought that a farmer did not need brains in order to succeed. That was always a mistake. Sharp competition makes it necessary to use both brain and muscles, or else be left behind in the struggle for bread. We have not the experiments of others to guide us—not even their blunders to shun. We are feeling our way. Everything is tentative. In good faith we tried the methods of the east but often failed. For this reason, the experimental farms will be of great value to us, especially the experiments with natural grasses of the country for the time will come when settlement will limit our ranges, and to feed our flocks and herds it will be necessary to fall back on the cultivation of native grasses, in themselves most nutritious, and which can be cultivated with success. I believe in the country where I have come to make my home, and there is a home for millions of others."

These are but a few quotations from the aforementioned report. Central Alberta in 1880 was known as Northern Alberta.

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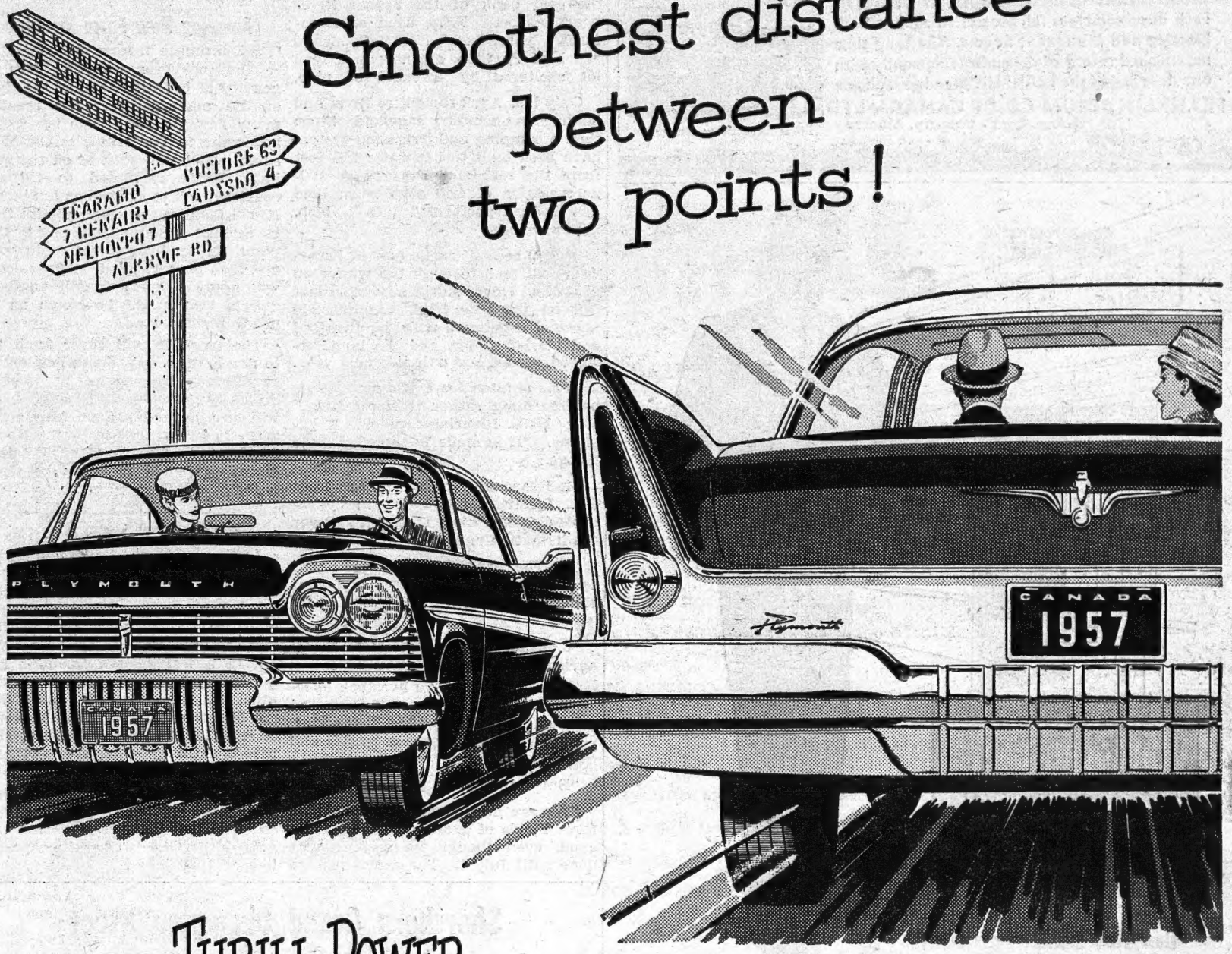
248-6

Little Bobby on a Christmas morning said, "Mummie, Santa Claus isn't a very good man, is he?"

"Certainly he is, dear! Why not?"

"Well," said Bobby, "he came into my room last night in the dark, and I'm almost sure I heard him say 'Damn!'"

Smoothest distance between two points!



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Plymouth '57

with revolutionary Torsion-Aire Ride

Never before have so many buyers been so excited about any new car. And no wonder—the beautiful new Plymouth's a real smoothie for ride as well as for looks. Coming or going, *sheer pleasure* is all you feel behind the wheel of a big new *Thrill-Power* Plymouth with Torsion-Aire ride. Because Torsion-Aire brings you the smoothest ride this side of a magic carpet. A revolutionary new torsion-bar suspension system does it.

ORDINARY CAR '57 PLYMOUTH



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ORDINARY CAR '57 PLYMOUTH



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ORDINARY CAR '57 PLYMOUTH



New Torsion-Aire ride . . . a Chrysler Corporation exclusive . . . is just *one* of the beautiful Plymouth's many thrilling new features. But see for yourself. Drive a new *Thrill-Power* Plymouth today, and you'll be singing its praises, too.

Plymouth is the lowest priced car with

- **New low-slung Flight-Sweep styling**
- **New V-8 or 6 *Thrill-Power* go**
- **New super-safe Total-Contact brakes**
- **New revolutionary Torsion-Aire ride**



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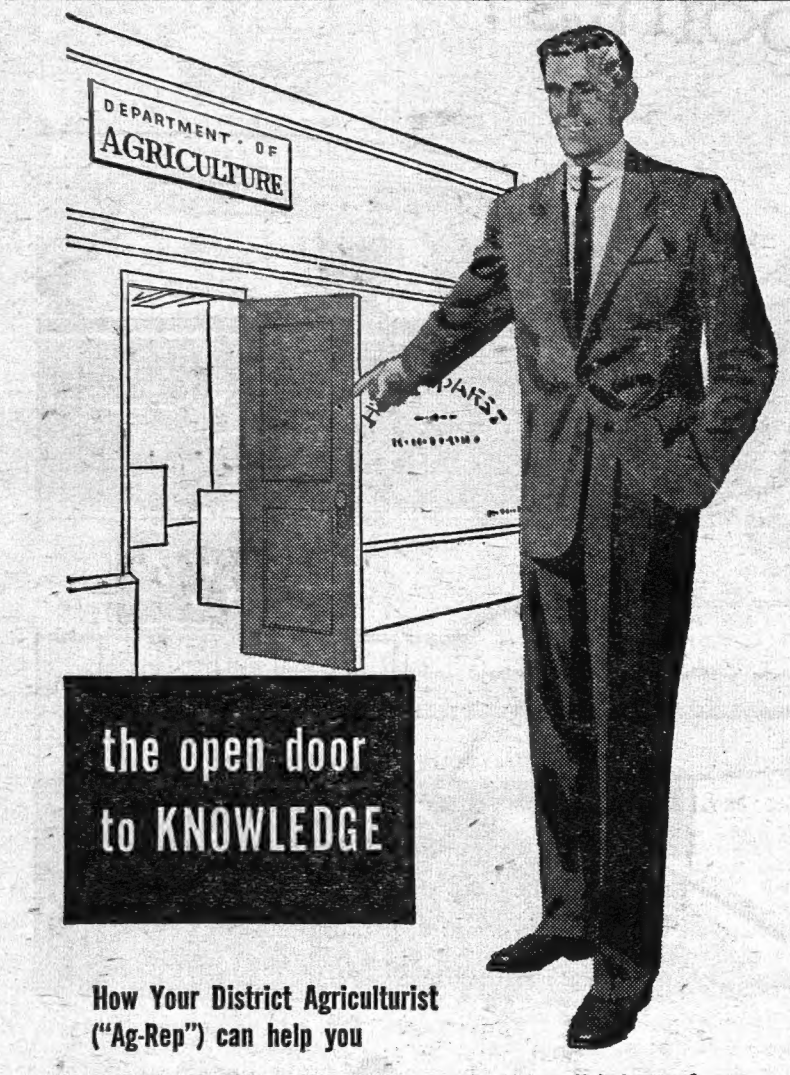
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B.C. Electric Irrigation Project

CATTLE have been introduced for the first time to Riverland Irrigated Farms Ltd., B.C. Electric's demonstration irrigation project on the east bank of the Fraser River near Lillooet. Fifty head of Herefords, purchased from Spencer's ranch at Pavilion, are now in a feed lot sheltered by a stand of pine.

Only last April the entire Riverland holding was bone-dry sageland. Since then a pumping and irrigation system have been built to lift water 350 feet from the turbulent Fraser. A 160-acre section of arid sage-brush land has been transformed into a lush, green growth.

The 50 head of cattle now at Riverland will feed through the winter on grass and clover silage harvested last fall on the new land. Another 70 acres of sagebrush will be pulverized and plowed under, and the land fertilized, seeded and irrigated next year.

"This is intensive cattle production, beef farming rather than ranching," Ivor Neil, Riverland president, explains. "It is made possible by three things:

"1. Reasonably-priced power from B.C. Electric's nearby Seton hydro-Electric generating station to power the irrigation pumps.

"2. The producing power that comes from summer heat and sunshine on land with a controlled water supply.

"3. Application of best technical agricultural knowledge available.

"When the intensive livestock operation has been well established and soil fertility built up," Mr. Neil added, "we may consider some vegetable and canning crops along with livestock.

"But that in the future.

"We are happy with the results so far. Yields of grass and clover were good, even though no seeding was done until July 4. The experience we are gaining will be available to every farmer in the dry belt. We're willing to share all the information we are gathering," he said.

"That's one of the main reasons for carrying on the project, of course."

Amazing New Farm Machine

THE ultimate in farm mechanization has not been reached. The ingenuity of the engineer and the drive of the manufacturers are creating many new wonders. The latest that has come to our notice is the Wonsover, which will soon be on the market. It is regulated to till and condition soil to as deep as ten inches. It will fertilize the seed and also treat it against disease and pests, then plant the seed broadcast or in rows, and then pack the soil. A final device will apply a spray to kill weeds or insects that might be blown on the newly planted land.

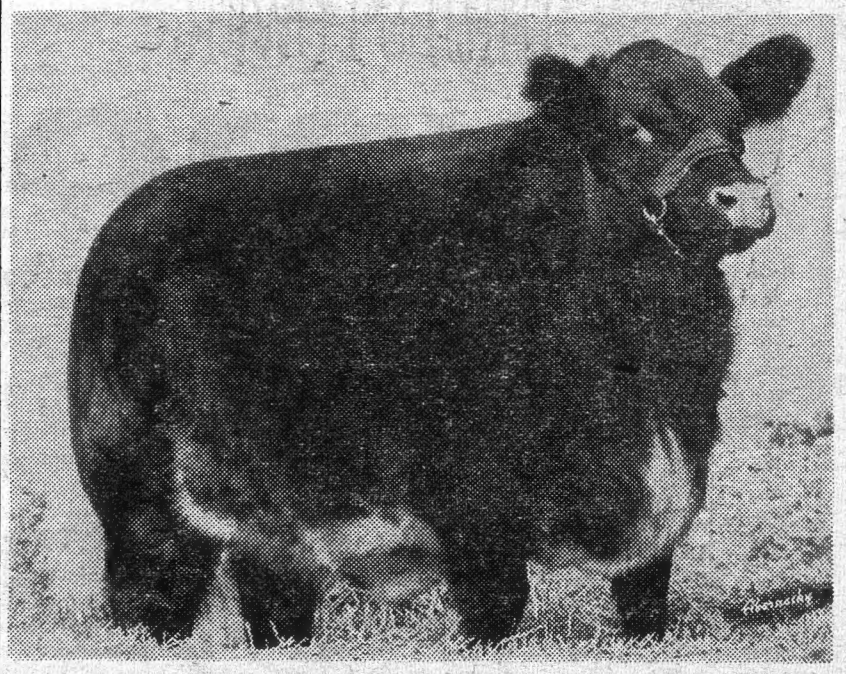
The machine will cover from two to five acres a day, depending on soil conditions. It weighs 12 tons, is driven by 300 h.p. diesel engine, and will cost around $37,000 fully equipped. It was developed by the Norton Portland Corporation, of Portland, Maine, and will probably be distributed by the Caterpillar Co.

CHAMPION LIAR STORY

In South Dakota they have a clay-like soil they call gumbo. The gumbo roads are smooth and hard as glass when dry, but when wet the gumbo balls up under the fenders until it locks the wheels on a car. Last year during a wet spell a farmer's hogs got little balls of gumbo on their tails. As they walked around these got bigger and bigger until the weight of it pulled back their skins so tight they couldn't get their eyes shut. And they died from lack of sleep.

Albert B. Hopkins, of Madison, Wisconsin, submitted the above story to the Burlington Liars Club, and gained the title of world's champion liar of 1956.

Shorthorn Grand Champion Steer



PS Troubadour, sensational 995-lb. Shorthorn calf.

"The all-time best, the closest approach to the perfect beef animal ever shown."

That is what experienced cattlemen called P. S. Troubadour, the Shorthorn steer that won the grand championship at the Chicago International and was taken on an extended tour of the U.S and Eastern Canada.

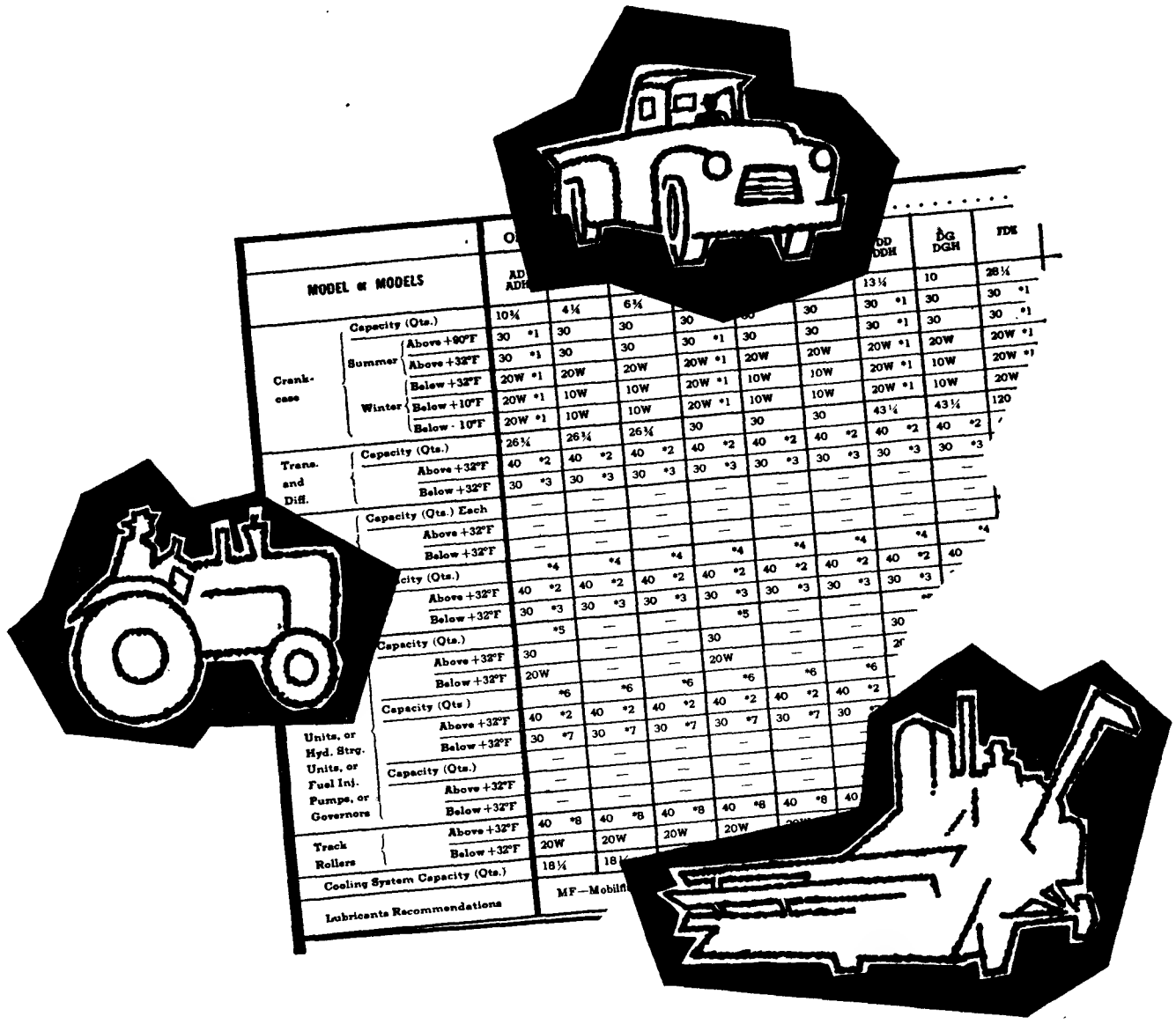
The 995-lb. grand champion, at 14 months, was barely old enough to compete in the big show, but his task was to uphold the honors of the Shorthorn breed against the best of his elders in the Hereford and Angus classes. But the qualities of breeding, feeding and personality paid off and showed them all up. Bred at Acadia Farms, Northfield, Ohio, the showplace of Cyrus Eaton, Troubadour was bought at auction by Truman Wright, the Manager of Greenbriar Hotel in White Sulphur Springs, for an all-time record bid of $20.50 a pound and a total of $20,397.50.

We've been talking to farmers

coast to coast . . . and

here's what you tell us you want:

lubrication advice



MODEL or MODELS			O… AD ADH							DD DDH	DG DGH	FDE
Crank-case	Capacity (Qts.)		10¾	4¼	6¾			30		13¼	10	28¼
	Summer	Above +90°F	30 *1	30	30	30				30 *1	30	30 *1
		Above +32°F	30 *1	30	30	30 *1	30	30		30 *1	30	30 *1
	Winter	Below +32°F	20W *1	20W	20W	20W *1	20W	20W		20W *1	20W	20W *1
		Below +10°F	20W *1	10W	10W	20W *1	10W	10W		20W *1	10W	20W *1
		Below - 10°F	20W *1	10W	10W	20W *1	10W	10W		20W *1	10W	20W
Trans. and Diff.	Capacity (Qts.)		26¼	26¼	26¼	30	30	30		43¼	43¼	120
		Above +32°F	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2		40 *2	40 *2	
		Below +32°F	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3		30 *3	30 *3	
Units, or Hyd. Strg. Units, or Fuel Inj. Pumps, or Governors	Capacity (Qts.) Each		—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	
		Above +32°F	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	
		Below +32°F	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	
	…city (Qts.)			*4		*4	*4		*4		*4	*4
		Above +32°F	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40
		Below +32°F	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3	30 *3		
	Capacity (Qts.)			*5	—	—	*5	—	—	—		
		Above +32°F	30	—	—	—	20W	—	—	—	30	
		Below +32°F	20W	—	—	—		*6	*6	*6		
	Capacity (Qts.)			*6	*6	*6	*6					
		Above +32°F	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2	40 *2		
		Below +32°F	30 *7	30 *7	30 *7	30 *7	—	30 *7	—	—		
	Capacity (Qts.)		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Above +32°F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		Below +32°F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Track Rollers		Above +32°F	40 *8	40 *8	40 *8	40 *8	40 *8	40 *8	40 *8	40		
		Below +32°F	20W	20W	20W	20W						
Cooling System Capacity (Qts.)			18¼	18…								
Lubricants Recommendations			MF—Mobilf…									

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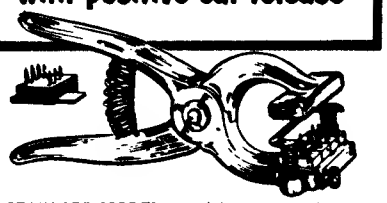
Your Imperial Agent can give you lubrication advice and recommend products designed to meet the requirements of *your* equipment. For longer engine life and farm machinery protection, we Imperial Oil Agents can bring you in one convenient delivery, Esso Tractor Fuels, Marvelube Motor and Gear Oils, Esso M.P. Grease.

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A Handful Of Pebbles

By KERRY WOOD

IF you've ever picked up a lovely pebble from a ploughed field or a pasture lot, you have a kinship with friend Tom. He and his wife and family of two boys and a pert girl are fond of the outdoors, and while abroad on picnic outings they manage to find many a twisty piece of willow, a chunk of driftwood art, and a pocketful of colored stones.

"Just a few months agon I decided to do something about those rocks," Tom explains. "There was a slab of petrified wood out in our pansy bed, a big boulder of red granite near the back door, a whole heap of conglomerates or pudding stones, and cans of pretty pebbles. I'd wet a finger and rub it over the surfaces and watch the bright colors pop out for a minute, but I kept wondering what those stones looked like inside. So just before winter set in, I sent away for a saw blade that would cut through rocks."

A small, eight-inch circular blade with teeth adorned with chips from industrial diamonds. Not very expensive, Tom added, but an essential tool for cutting up rock specimens. He fitted the table to an axle turned by a quarter-horse-power motor, then placed a tin trough container under the blade so that it would run in water to keep the cutting edge cool and the water also acted as a catcher for the flying rock dust. From the same motor he ran a shaft that operated for the ordinary emery wheel and a polishing head. Then he was all ready to have fun with stones.

"The store that sold me the saw blade had fancy stones for sale too, so I bought a few specimens to play with," Tom said. "Pieces of moss agate from Oregon and some green and red stuff from Wyoming, at one dollar for a slab about a quarter inch thick by three inches long and two inches wide. Come and I'll show them to you."

Pebbles Into Jewels

He led the way down into the basement, where his new hobby takes up six feet of space on a bench top. From an old shoe box Tom produced the imported stones, thin fragments with the sides showing traces of saw marks. The agate stones could be held up against the light, as they were transparent enough to reveal the colors and patterns. Solid specimens had to be moistened before their attractions showed up.

"That's the raw material, so to speak. Here's what they look like, after I saw them into small pieces and grind them to shape and put on a polish."

Tom got out some smaller boxes and poured out a handful of jewels marvelously colored and glassily smooth. They did actually look like large-sized jewels, though in reality they were fragments of rocks. An agate stone had a miniature landscape scene traced in delicate green filigree, while some of the red jaspers had a ruby-like quality enhanced by streaks of opaque crystals.

My friend demonstrated how he fastened a small fragment of rock onto a piece of apple-box wood measuring four inches long and a quarter inch thick; a piece of wood he called a Dop-stick. The stone was glued to it by ordinary sealing wax.

"That'll hold the stone firmly in place, then I can hold it against the emery wheel and rotate it on a polishing surface until I get the finish I want. As a matter of fact, a saw is not needed at all if a fellow is content to work with small pebbles all the time. A nicely shaped pebble can be made into a perfect circle or a neat oval with no other tools than an emery wheel and a polishing head. The polisher needs a variety of grits grading from coarse to fine, then a piece of smooth leather as the buffer to get a high gloss finish."

Circular and oval-shaped stones that have been polished are called Cabochons, and are ideal for making costume jewelry. Tom's wife bought a number of 50c brooches from the nearest novelty store, then Tom and his son Bruce removed the colored glass from the metal clasps or claws and inserted their rock cabochons. The result was some strikingly beautiful brooches.

Polished Petrified Wood

Seeing the finished product gave me an idea. For years our family has admired the massive chunks of petrified wood found on the river shores fronting on our own piece of farmland. Could petrified wood be polished into a brooch stone ?

"Oh, sure," answered Tom, bringing out still another box. "Here are native stones I've polished. This one is a quartzite rock that young Bruce polished into a round marble. Here's a lemon yellow pebble we finished in a pear shape, ready to be made into a pendant when we can figure out how to bore a hole in the end. This red stone was a grey looking pebble picked up on the shores of Sylvan Lake, while here's a greenish one I got out in the backyard. And here's some petrified wood finished ready to mount — the brown colored variety came from my old farm district near Hardisty, while the black stuff came from the banks of the Red Deer River near the mouth of the Blindman."

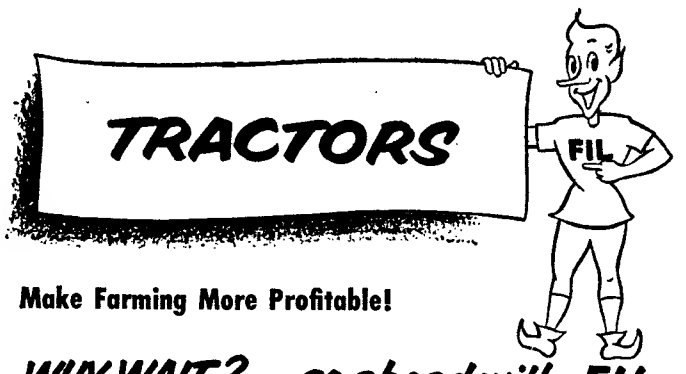
The petrified wood from the local stream semed to be solidly black at first glance, but a closer inspection revealed crystal streaks and opaque whites. I once heard that old sap or pitch pockets in petrified wood could be polished into agate-like jewels, so here was a chance to get a native jewel stone for my wife. Tom selected a fragment of wood with a crystalized streak through it and agreed to do the job of polishing it and fitting it into a brooch mount. The finished article turned out to be most attractive, with the extra novelty of a picture-like scene in it that shows a galloping bear about to take a bite out of the hindparts of a running man!

"I got keen on the hobby for my own fun," said Tom when he sold me the petrified wood brooch. "But just around Christmas time, people heard about me polishing stones and rushed around to buy native-stone jewelry for presents. In fact, I'd made up a special brooch and earring set for my wife's Christmas, but a fellow saw it and got so keen over it that he offered me a fabulous price, and I had to let him have it and get busy making a new set for Phyllis."

On a second visit to his hobby bench, Tom showed our family the whole procedure of rock polishing. Now we've got two daughters who talk learnedly about dop-sticks and take turns cranking an emery wheel to grind a smooth surface on pretty pebbles they collected last summer during our boating holiday down the Red Deer River.

"Our own holidays for next summer are all settled," Tom said when I told him about the girls' activities. "Our family is heading for the mountains to spend the whole holiday gathering rocky specimens to polish next winter."

If you've ever picked up a ringed piece of gneiss, a red and black conglomerate, a whitish lump of crystal quartz, or a fragment of stone with particles of shining pyrites in it, you can copy Tom's example and have a lot of fun making lovely jewelry out of a handful of pebbles.



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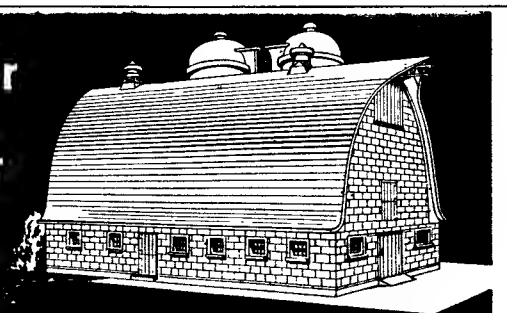
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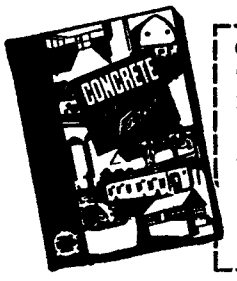


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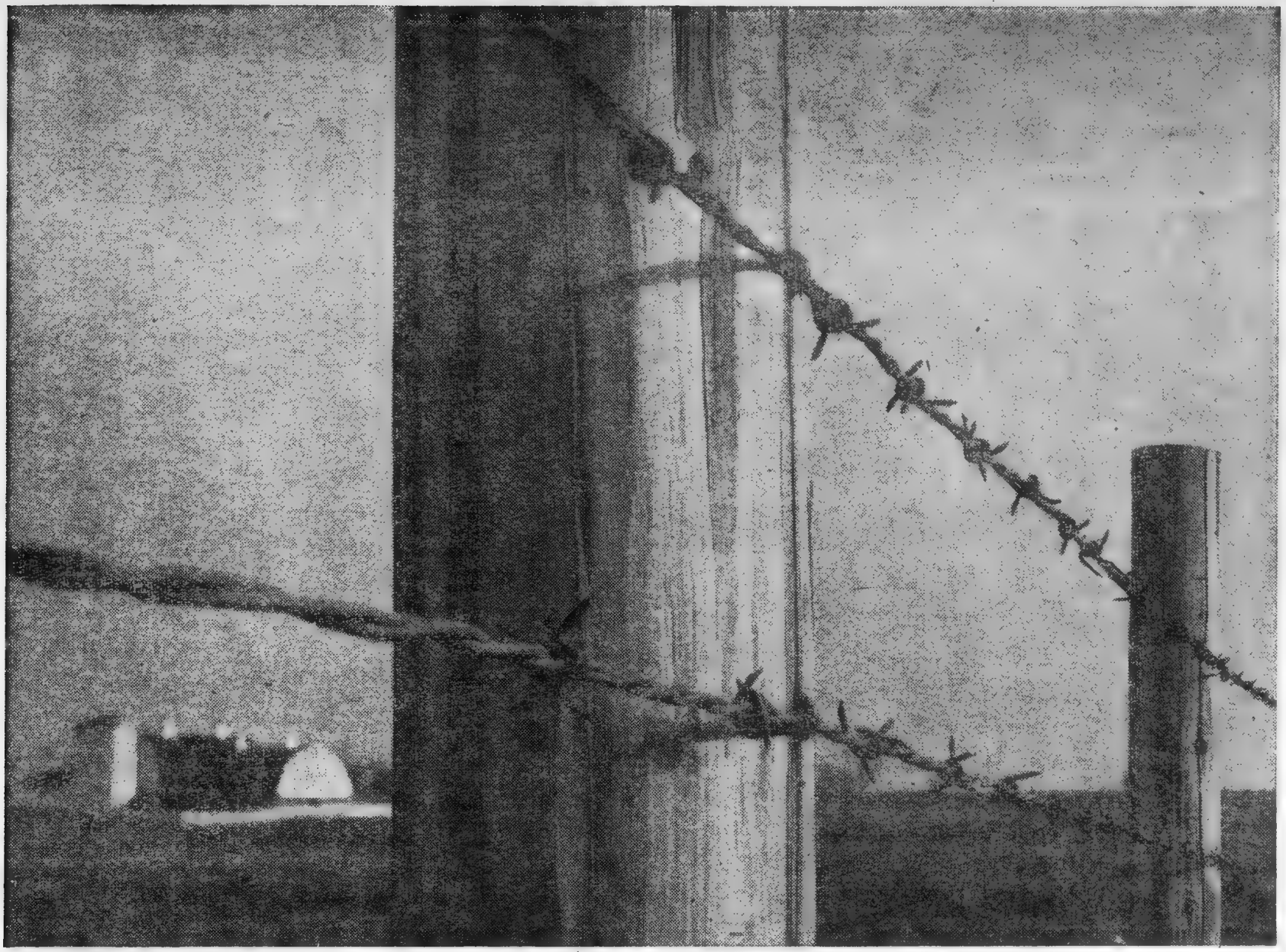
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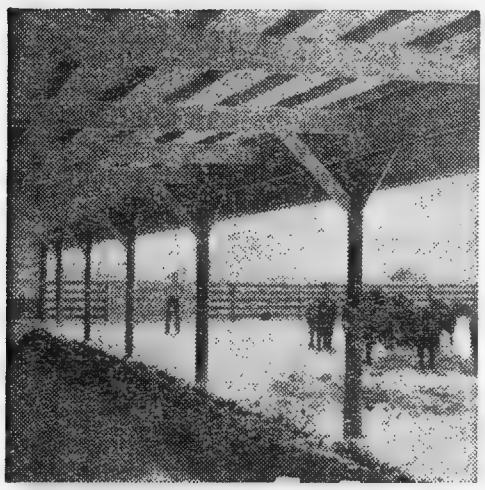


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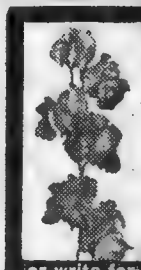
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Wheat's Contribution To Mankind's Progress

"When tillage begins other arts follow. The farmers, therefore, are the founders of human civilization." — Daniel Webster.

THE story of wheat is the story of civilized living. Wheat occupies more land throughout the world than any other food crop — almost as much as the combined acreage of corn and rice.

Wheat ripens from the equator to the near sub-Artics. Farmers are growing it far up the Mackenzie basin. There are close to 15,000 known varieties of wheat and some will grow as high up as 11,000 feet in the Himalayan mountains. In fact some cerealists believe wheat originated in the slopes of the mountains in Ethiopia.

Five thousand years ago, about the time the Pharaoh Cheops was interred in the Great Pyramid, an Egyptian baker made one of man's first chemical discoveries. He forgot some dough he was preparing which was left for some days exposed to the open air. Some tiny yeast spores fell on the dough and fermentation began. When baked the Egyptian found that his wheat dough had risen to a fluffy loaf, several times its original size and full of tiny air pockets. He had luckily discovered leavened bread, which soon became popular among bread-eaters. Prior to that the so-called bread was a sort of a flat pancake.

Wheat has been grown from time immemorial. Its cultivation marked the transition of human tribes from hunters to farmers and enabled mankind to provide an increasing supply of food that could be safely stored. The development of grain agriculture was one of the most important events in human history. It takes 8 square miles of grain land to feed a lone hunter. The same area, plowed and planted to grain, can support six thousand human beings.

Before cereal culture began, the whole earth with all its riches could not feed as many people as there are in Canada today. Afterwards when grain culture developed and expanded through the earth, human beings had a never-ending source of excellent food than could be stored for an indefinite time and readily transported over vast distances.

The story of wheat is the story of civilization. The first farmers with primitive tools broke plots of earth which they cultivated and seeded from year to year and in that way the idea of private property developed. Agriculture compelled the first farmers to become observers of the seasons and this could best be done through the stars and in time astronomy became dimly intelligible to farm people. This was followed by the need for calculations and arithmetic was born.

Agriculture brought a drastic change to human living for it required settlements where tribes and families could live, instead of following a nomadic existence in the perpetual hunt for game. The core of many such settlements became villages, then towns and finally cities were born. The people who lived in these centers of population were, in the first place, servants of the farmers who lived in the surrounding region. They exchanged specialized services and goods for food. The urban dwellers had more time for education, the arts and sciences, the development of culture and the perfecting of laws and regulations necessary to civilized existence. But the farmer was the supplier of food and was respected in that occupation. In times of crop failure he was highly honored.

One hunderd years ago 90% of the people of the world lived on farms. They were needed there to provide food and clothing material for themselves and for the ten per cent living in urban centres. Today less than 20% of Canada's population live on farms and produce abundance not only for the people of this nation, but also for export.

The output per farm worker in English-speaking North America has increased more in the past 100 years than the output of farms throughout the world in the previous 47 centuries. Most of the increase in production gained over the past century has occurred within the past fifty years.

FREIGHT ASSISTANCE FOR SEED

To encourage the use of better seed, the Saskatchewan department of agriculture will pay one-half regular carload rates on bulk and bagged carlots of registered and certified wheat, oats, barley, flax and rye, purchased by farmers for their own land. Farmers who wish to avail themselves of this assistance should contact their local agricultural representative or write to the Plant Industry Branch, Department of Agriculture, Regina.

In nine municipalities of Saskatchewan surveyed last year 43% of wheat samples taken from seed drills in the field graded rejected, while 24% of the grains were of varieties not recommended for the district.

Hon. I. C. Nollet, minister of agriculture, says it is of vital importance that growers should produce a high quality product in order to maintain preference for Canadian grain in world markets.

Edmonton Exhibition Appointment

THE management of the Edmonton Exhibition Association has announced the appointment of Sten S. Berg to the position of Livestock Supervisor with the association.

Twenty-seven years of age, Mr. Berg was born at Millicent, Alberta. He graduated from the University of Alberta in 1954 with a B.Sc. in agriculture and a major in animal science.

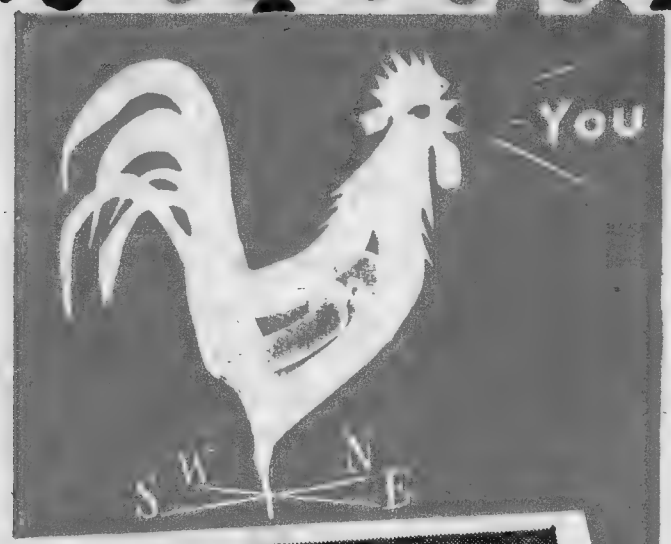
Mr. Berg had been very active in 4-H Club work. For years he fitted, showed and sold a calf, until he was 20. In 1946 he and his sister won the provincial beef cattle judging competition and went on to Toronto to take second in Dominion competitions.

In addition to his duties as livestock supervisor, Mr. Berg will be in charge of all agricultural entries.

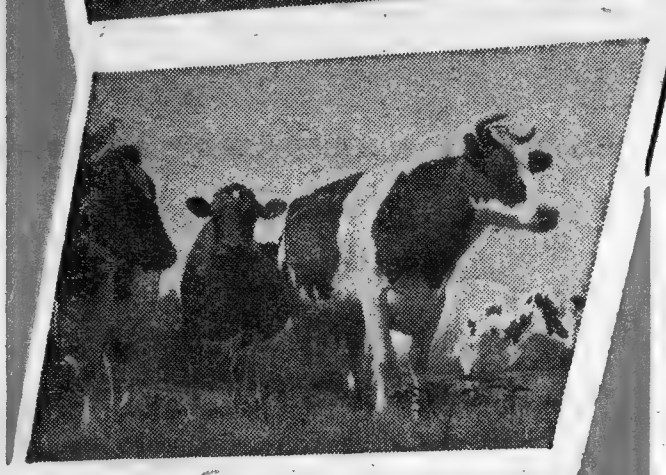


Sten S. Berg

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Oldtimer Looks At 20th Century

By C. H. STOUT

EVERY year the charmed circle of those who were old enough to remember the coming of the twentieth century grows smaller. And not so many of today's generation will be around to greet the arrival of the year Two Thousand. No doubt about it a New Year is a big event in most of our lives for it means much more than the ringing of bells and the exchange of good wishes. It marks another mile post and generally a discriminating look backward and a speculative as well as a somewhat wistful glance towards the future. It calls for a human as well as a commercial stock-taking. It may leave behind a pathway of regrets, but always there is a morning glow of hope ahead. That's only for one year — a mere twelve months. Picture then the emotional effect on the young as well as old when the door swings open on a New Century.

Probably no other one hundred years in history was viewed with as much uplift and excitement as was the coming of the Twentieth Century. Tremendous expansion had been taking place in the Nineties, world capitals were humming with trade and commerce, royal courts were brilliant in all the old world, the British Empire was at the peak of its prestige and power, the new world was agog with the mushroom growth of manufacturing and millionaires, and sensational new inventions stirred the imagination about greater wonders to come. While no one thought seriously of automobiles and the internal combustion engine the huge Twentieth Century edition of the New York World pictured machines sailing through the skies of future years with people lolling on desk chairs under fancy canopies aboard giant aircraft designed like ocean liners.

These and other far-fetched dreams were sketched as the things Twentieth Century generations were to witness. Today we know that much of the 1900 other hand we have lived through oether hand we have lived through times, conditions and developments far more sensational and amazing than forecasters 57 years ago could possibly have foreseen.

No need to review all the wonders of invention that now are accepted and essential. Suffice it to say that we of the older generation privileged to be around today have lived through the most wonderful period in world history so far as material development is concerned. World and scientific changes are more bewildering than even the keenest minds can fathom, while here at home it's next to impossible to picture to the younger generation what frontier life was like to their parents and grandparents 57 years ago. Those pioneers too were young when 1899 hobbled away. They danced one century out and another century in to the tune of a fiddle or organ, exchanging good wishes in crude log homes, and hoping above all that schools, roads, and a great measure of property would come with the new century. They were wholly concerned with building a new and better country and giving their children advantages in land and culture that they were forced to deny themselves. No dream of oil riches, of rapid transportation by air, or of gas driven machinery on the farms. They wanted railways to bring markets nearer, roads to reach those railways, and, above all, to have provincial rights and self government nearer home.

These dreams have in the main been realized during a half century, but what the old-timers couldn't foresee was the uncertain state to befall agriculture in the middle of the Twentieth century. Always, declared the old-timers, this rich soil will produce abundantly, and as long as there are good crops there will be no cause for worry. How could they know that in the middle fifties the land could produce itself poor and general prosperity almost impoverish the farmer. But going into another year we have renewed faith in the foresight of the pioneers. Alberta's foundation was planted on the farm and its future will forever rest on that foundation.

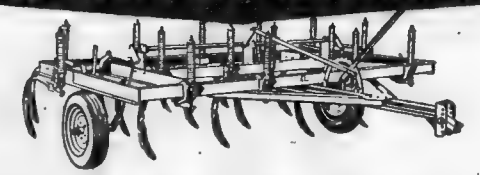
A farmer visiting his son in college was being shown through the chemistry lab. and was told that the few students at work were seeking a universal solvent. "And what," asked the farmer, "is a universal solvent?"

"It's a solvent," he was told, "that would dissolve anything."

"That's a remarkable idea," said the farmer, "and what are they going to keep it in if they find it?"

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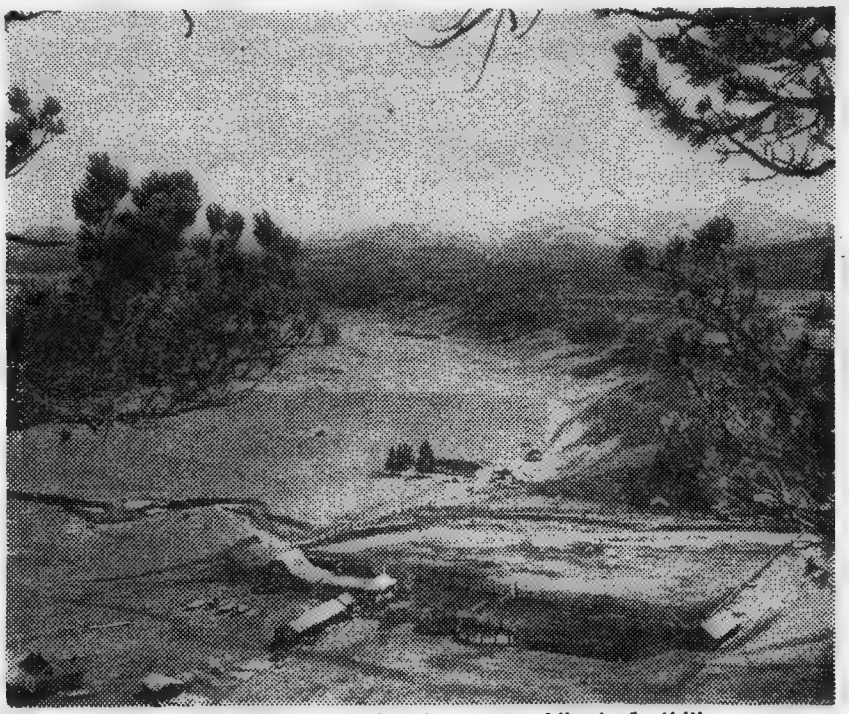
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The Rio Alta Ranch in the Picturesque Alberta foothills.

The Front Page Picture

Bert Sheppard, whose picture appears on the front page, is the manager of the Rio Alta ranch at Longview, in the celebrated High River range country. (Rio Alta is Spanish for high river.)

This ranch is one of the oldest in southern Alberta and carries the OH brand, the second brand used in the High River district. The ranch is owned by C. W. Roenisch and Wm. Ardern, of Calgary.

Bert has his own ranch, the TL on Sullivan Creek, about 7 miles from the Rio Alta. He was born in the district, got cattle of his own when a very young man, and bought the TL ranch in 1939.

The Rio Alta ranch was started in 1878 by O. H. Smith and Lafayette French, who were running a stopping place in High River. French had a trading post at Blackfoot Crossing on the Bow River south of Cluny. He came from Montana as did O. H. Smith, who freighted from Fort Benton.

The two sold their ranch in the fall of the year they started it, to Fred Ings who later sold it to his brother Walter. About 1918 it was bought by Mayer and Lege, U.S. cattle dealers, and afterwards sold to P. Burns Ranches. The present owners bought it in 1950.



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Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Peachey and grandsons, of Briercrest, Sask., coming in from picking a load of stones off a field on Boxing Day, 1956. The weather was fine.

FARM CASH INCOME

Cash income of Canadian farmers for the year 1956 is estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at $2,655,872,000.

That figure is 12.9% above the cash income of $2,352,563,000 in 1955 and 10.9 over the 1954 figure of $2,395,-300,0000. The 1952 cash income of $2,849,300,000 was an all-time high.

Cash income of the four western provinces for 1956 is as follows, with figures for the previous year :

	1956	1955
Manitoba	$208,610,000	$170,126,000
Sask.	592,728,000	425,043,000
Alberta	430,119,000	363,081,000
Br. Col.	107,275,000	107,340,000

PRAIRIE BORN

There are 46 wonderful kinds of birds,
They say, in Stanley Park,
But I'd give the whole caboodle
For a prairie meadow lark.
There are bears and monks, otters and seals,
And lions fierce, as well,
But I'd give the whole menagerie
To hear a "kiute's yell!"
—Annie Armstrong, in the Vancouver Province.

Cockshutt Farm Equipment Sales Conference



Trophy-winning Cockshutt Dealers.

L. to R., sitting — N. Scotney, H. Grose, J. Norrie, O. Zimmerman. Standing —R. Scotney, G. Bruggencate, W. Bishop, S. Bush, W. Ebel, and A. M. Warren, Calgary manager.

THE Alberta sales conference of the Cockshutt Farm and Equipment Co. dealers was held in Calgary on January 23. A. M. Warren, manager at Calgary and for Southern Alberta, in his opening remarks, said the slogan for the year was "make 1957 a record-breaking year."

The local and district dealers gathered at the Stampeder Hotel, Calgary, for the conference. Prominent company officials from the head office in Brantford delivered addresses, among whom were: R. Bishop, general manager; R. D. Tannahill, Canadian sales manager; M. W. Reid, assistant Canadian sales manager; also A. G. Tarry, sales supervisor for the Calgary branch. All were enthusiastic over the company's products and prospects for the year 1957.

Presentation of trophies was made to seven top Alberta dealers for the past year. Their names: J. Norrie and H. Grose, of Lethbridge; N. Scotney and son, R. Scotney, of Vulcan; O. Zimmerman, of Innisfail; G. Bruggencate, of Coronation; W. Schacher, of Carbon; W. Ebel, of Schuler; R. Bishop, of Etzikom.

Relationship between dealer and customer was the theme of afternoon addresses. After dinner in the evening Norman Moore, director of public relations, delivered an inspirational address on salesmanship, emphasizing sincerity, honesty and effort.

HOW TO PACK for PARCEL POST



1 Don't use flimsy shoe boxes — use corrugated cardboard cartons.

2 Use strong wrapping paper and tie with strong cord.

3 Print name and address clearly, completely and correctly on front of parcel IN INK.

4 Put your own name and address in the front upper left corner, and *inside* parcel.

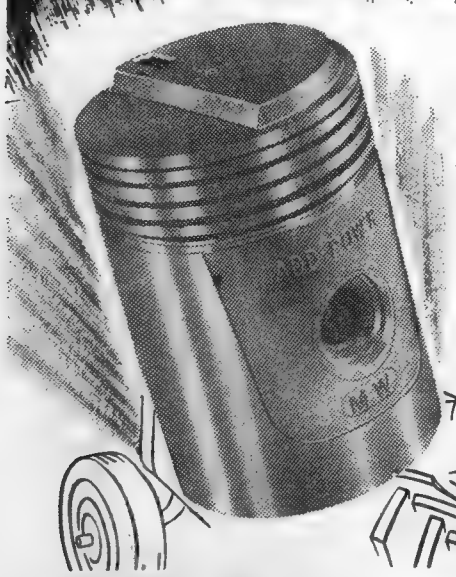
5 Don't guess about weight — have your Post Office weigh parcels.

FOLLOW THESE 5 SUGGESTIONS AND HELP SPEED YOUR MAIL! CANADA POST OFFICE

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Get NEW 1957 POWER with M & W add-POW'R

Bigger pistons and sleeves . . .



Add three to twelve more horsepower to your tractor by installing a set of M & W add-POW'R oversize, light-weight, aluminum pistons with slip-in replacement sleeves that need no block reboring.

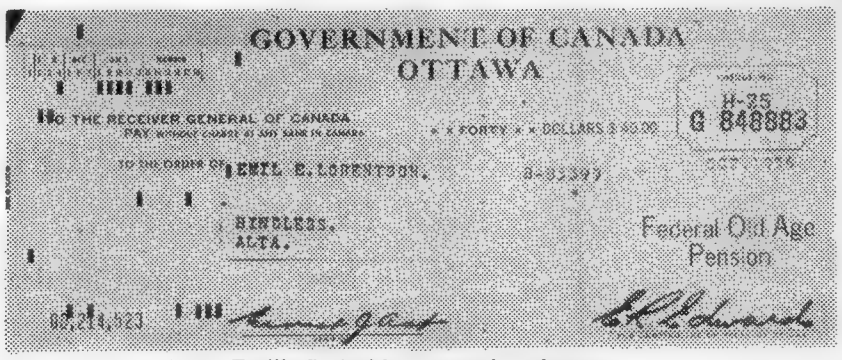
M & W offset pins and chrome piston rings give longer wear, reduce fuel consumption and are balanced to reduce vibration so that even an old tractor can handle the extra power without strain. That's why there are more M & W add-POW'R pistons in use than any other make. Ask your dealer to install them — they're available for practically all makes of tractors.



Write for free literature.

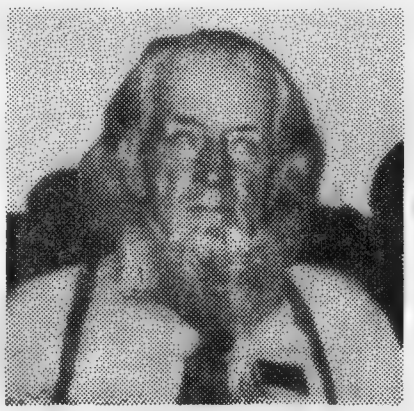
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299 Danforth Rd., Toronto 13, Ont.
2875 St. Joseph St., Lachine, P.Q.
Allied Farm Equipment Ltd.,
Box 53, Winnipeg, Man.

Grain Belt Farm Equipment Ltd.,
1348 Halifax St., Regina, Sask.
ALBERTA & BRITISH COLUMBIA,
Northwest Farm Equipment Ltd.,
Box 351, Calgary, Alta.



Emil's first old-age pension cheque.

EMIL LORENTSON, of Bindloss, Alberta, has received his first federal government old age pension, having passed the three score years and ten. He has had a battle with gall stones and heart trouble for 20 years and finally the doctors told him they had done all they could for him. A sore throat and head noises were driving him nuts so he let his hair grow, like Samson of the Bible story. He says that he is not now as strong as Samson, but still up on end. He writes : "This is the driest part of Alberta with no irrigation but my hair grows good. What a country. Get paid for staying alive, get The Farm and Ranch Review 5 years for 50c. Boy, O boy! What a country!"



Emil Lorentson, of Bindloss, Alta., with three years' growth of hair.

A total of 1,473,450 trees were planted on Alberta farms in 1956. The provincial government nurseries supplied 997,184 and 476,266 came from federal nurseries.

The address of the Alberta division of the Farm Loan Board is C.P.R. Building, Edmonton. I have been asked for this information by a number of farmers.

Seed Bed Preparation

AFTER the experience of last year, when late spring rainstorms and driving winds in Southern Alberta blew out many late-seeded crops and swept away the protective layer of trash, farmers are giving closer attention this season to the basic requirements of seedbeds for cereal grain production.

The Lethbridge experimental farm points out that a properly-prepared seed-bed must meet three requirements; a proper state of tilth with good moisture at seeding depth and a high proportion of small soil clods; the elimination of existing weed growth; and the provision of an erosion-resistant seed-bed to meet any emergency

The erosion resistance is obtained through cloddiness and roughness of the surface and the existing trash cover. Tests indicate that 2,000 pounds of trash per acre will not cause any reduction in yield, and a 20-bushel crop of spring wheat normally produces that much straw.

Two much straw cover can cause a reduction in yield by lowering the soil temperatures, but 4,000 pounds or more of trash cover per acre would be needed to completely shade the surface

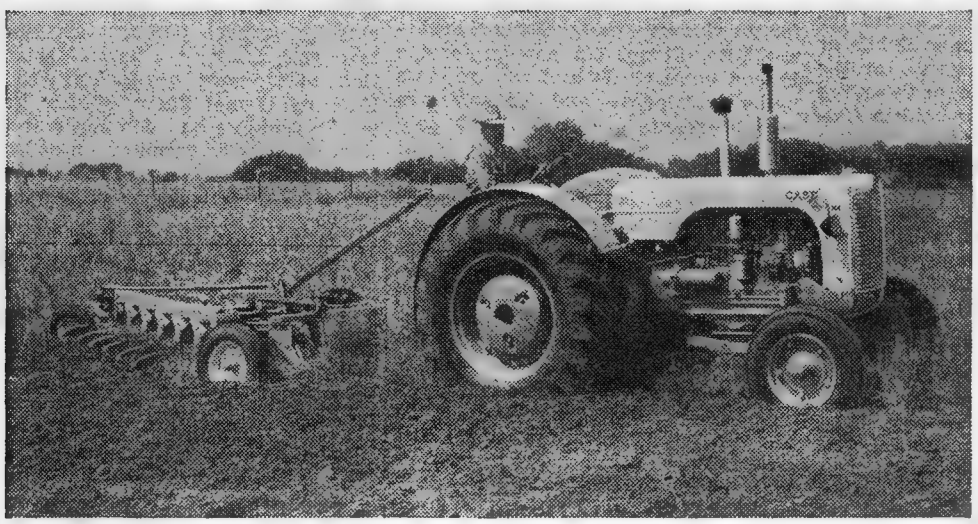
Tillage and seeding equipment have been developed to handle planting in all the conditions given above.

At the Scott, Sask., experimental farm, over the past ten years, Thatcher wheat averaged 21.9 bushels to the acre compared with 18.2 for Stewart, the durum variety. Stewart was a week to 10 days later.

Good fallowing pays in added grain production, says the Swift Current Experimental Station. The rainfall in May, June and July was 5.75 inches in that locality, which is one inch less than the long-term average. But yields on summerfallow were twice as high as the long-term average. This shows that reserve soil moisture conserved in summerfallow made a significant contribution to crop production. Good summerfallow also keeps down weeds, which reduce the capacity of land to produce.

For Big Savings on Big Acreage Farming . . .

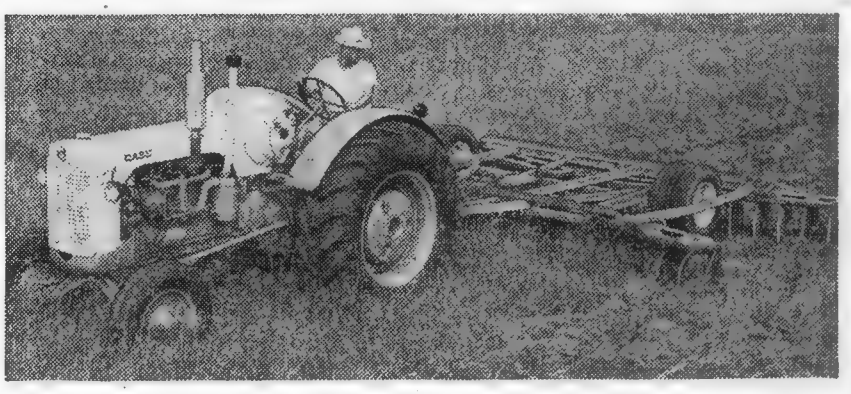
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Big roomy platform with lots of leg room, big super-comfort seat, "farmer-fitted" controls, many other comforts and conveniences make dawn-to-after-dark days far less tiring. Propane model shown here with big new 16-foot Case Model S wheel-type disk harrow that mixes stubble with topsoil, stirs big acreages fast. Wheels transport harrow on the road and gauge depth in the field.



The more you know about diesel and LPG engines in general, the more you'll admire these big, smooth-running, direct-electric-starting 6-cylinder Case engines for the fuel of your choice. Their lugging reserve cuts gear shifting to absolute minimum.

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Winter Rambles With Stockmen

By GRANT MacEWAN

DEAR MR. EDITOR : You remarked that I get around a lot. Well, you're right. It's got to the point, I confess, that when I do go home, the family mouse scarcely recognizes me.

In these recent winter weeks, I've had the good fortune to attend a livestock convention, a fat stock show, a very special birthday party and see livestock wintering in three provinces. I saw some of the West's good livestock settling down at home, having to accept common living again, after winning honors at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto. Once again the record with western breeds was most impressive — grand championhip awards in Herefords, Ayrshires, Clydesdales, Percherons, Suffolk sheep, Oxfords, Corriedales and North Country Cheviots.

It was in Herefords that western superiority was most convincing, with Lees Brothers, of Arcola, Saskatchewan, winning the grand championship for females and Jack Paul of Okotoks, Alberta, taking the grand award for bulls as well as the Premier Exhibitor and Premier Breeder awards for the Hereford show. At the forthcoming Hereford Congress to be held in Calgary in July, with breeders expected from many parts of the continent, the Alberta Hereford Association proposes to formerly recognize Jack Paul's singular success. And, incidently, his bull champion, Real Blocky Supreme 19J, has gone to a new home in Illinois for the tidy sum of $10,000.

It Would Be Nice !

Mr. Editor, it would be nice if you and I could sell one like that, just around or after Christmas each year.

It is generally assumed or should be assumed that the West will dominate in Herefords in national competition, but the East expects to win the dairy cattle honors. Hence, when Richards Brothers, of Red Deer, captured the Ayrshire bull championship at the Royal, the surprise and sensation were most agreeable to people from the prairies. The Richards are the only western exhibitors to have captured a supreme award for Ayrshires at any Royal Winter Fair.

About that birthday party to which I referred, Mr. Editor — nothing in these winter weeks was more delightful It was the 83rd birthday for Mrs. Stutt whose late husband, George Stutt, of Vandura, Saskatchewan, was a leading breeder of good livestock and one of the first Master Farmers in his province. Mrs. Stutt was born the year the North West Mounted Police were organized, came to the West as the first rails were being laid into Winnipeg from the South and was still ahead of the rails when she moved with her family to territory now Saskatchewan.

As I chatted with her at the party, I thought of many things — the good food I had eaten in her Saskatchewan farm kitchen, the great Clydesdale stallion, Brookside Mahomet, raised and exhibited widely by George Stutt, and certainly I thought about the Stutt hired man, Fred Perry. We hear much about labor problems on farms these days and the problem is very real; but when a worker has remained on one farm for over half a century, it speaks well for the understanding qualities of both employer and employee. Fred Perry, from England, came to work for George Stutt in 1905 and he's still working on the Stutt farm at Vandura. He hopes, when he dies, to be buried along side his old boss; and in the opinion of those of us who knew George Stutt, that's good choice.

Yes — the Fat Stock Show — there's only one such event in the West in early winter and it's at Kamloops. They call it the Christmas Fat Stock Show and it has become the biggest and strongest 4H cattle contest in Western Canada. The recent show saw 21 clubs in the competitions and it was a club entry exhibited by Patsy Abel from Westwold, a 950-pound Hereford, that went to the grand championship of the big show, then selling to Canada Safeway for one dollar a pound. Len Wood of Armstrong, had the champion steer in the open classes and the pioneer Douglas Lake Cattle Company, the champion carload of steers.

Not only did 21 junior clubs come out in 21 contests but all 21 came together in one gigantic inter-club competition to present what may have been the biggest ring-full of show cattle ever seen in a single class in Canada — at least a hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds of beef on the hoof, in one ring. Kamloops, the capital of the inter-mountain cattle country, furnished bigger quarters for its vigorous winter show this season but still not big enough for the 150 or more cattle and 150 or more junior cattlemen and cattlewomen seen together.

Of course, Canada is a land of extremes in scenery, soil, climate and other things, and a few days after being at Kamloops where everybody seems conscious of the livestock industry and its traditions, I found myself at what must be the only city of 12,000 population on the North American continent — perhaps in the world — where there is neither horse, cow, pig nor sheep for many miles in any direction. The place is that mushroom community of Kitimat, 400 air miles northwest of Vancouver, built according to a carefully designed plan. It's a fabulous place—4,000 motor vehicles on its new streets and no road by which a motorist can get into the place or out of it. The milk I drank was the re-constituted kind and the meat is brought in from the outside and when at Kitimat one seems far removed from livestock and agriculture. But such is Canada.

Stockmen attending recent association conventions didn't like the January 1st increase of four per cent in freight rates, added to the seven per cent increase of last summer, any better than other Canadians with long freight hauls. "Freight is becoming the Western farmer's chief extravagance," one delegate remarked.

More re-assuring to growers was the Agricultural Outlook for 1957, presented to the annual Agricultural Conference held at Ottawa in December. Over the years the "Outlook" forecasts have been strikingly accurate and the annual judgments have gained respect from technicians and producers alike. According to the recent forecasts, cash income from livestock is expected to remain at the 1956 level, with more production and lower returns from eggs and higher returns from dairy products.

You know, Mr. Editor, the best place to gather unrecorded information about anything — the unprejudiced truth about the value of sweeping in a curling game or the best way to cure a cold — is the men's wash room of a sleeping car. I found myself sitting there with two cigar-smoking real-estate men from opposite sides of the prairies and took opportunity to get answers to questions about recent price trends in farm and ranch land.

Land Prices

We all know that the acre price for farm and ranch land rose steadily and rapidly for a number of years. We know, too, that the good soil of the West, Canada's richest treasure, is still good, and when one considers the productive capacity of a fertile acre, $30 to $40 for good grassland and $75 to $100 for good grain land doesn't seem too high. But my informants tended to confirm my former belief, that land prices have "levelled off" and in most cases receded from the peak of two or three years ago. The points my two companions agreed upon were that prices for straight grain farms have dropped 15 to 20 per cent, a reaction to difficulties in selling wheat; that good mixed farming land has declined less than 10 per cent, and good ranch land, practically not at all.

I was interested in the observation that there is a noticeable return to the "crop payment" plan in negotiating grain and mixed farms, a trend which should make it possible for young men to start farming with less capital and thus relieve a situation seen with some alarm.

I also got it on the best wash-room authority, from Dick Painter, entomologist extraordinary from Lethbridge, that the use of animal insecticides jumped 75 per cent in Canada last year, showing a new determination on the part of stockmen to rid their herds and flocks of lice, keds, warbles and so on. Moreover, it will soon be warble season again and cattlemen should be ready to combat the pests before the grubs escape from the backs of their bovine hosts.

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I missed Saskatoon's Dressed Meat and Poultry Show in December, but arrived to see them counting the receipts — $9,069 for the beef, pork, lamb and dressed poultry sold by auction after the show. The dressed meat classes at Saskatoon's winter show are quite unique and intensely practical. A few days before the show, exhibitors deliver their steer, pig and lamb entries, alive, at the Union Stock Yards, where anyone interested is free to inspect the animals and make relevant comparisons. From the Yards, the animals go to a local abattoir to be slaughtered and in due course, the carcasses are hung for display and competition in a mid-city show-room.

One of the valuable educational features lies in the opportunity for stockmen to compare the entries on foot with the characteristics revealed in the dressed carcasses. Moreover, here is a low-cost exhibition feature in which livestock producers and urban consumers find common interest in animal values, with frills, fancies and pedigrees brushed aside. Perchance, because of absence of glamor, the Saskatoon dressed meat classes have not received the recognition they deserve but those people who have ensured their perpetuation will have the satisfaction of staging one of the most useful events in the stockman's yearly program.

At this winter's show, Don Lees, of Kisby, won in a class of 18 beef carcasses; Cliff Souster, of Delisle, topped a class of 29 pork carcasses and A. M. McKenzie, also from Delisle, was the winner in a class of 23 lamb carcasses.

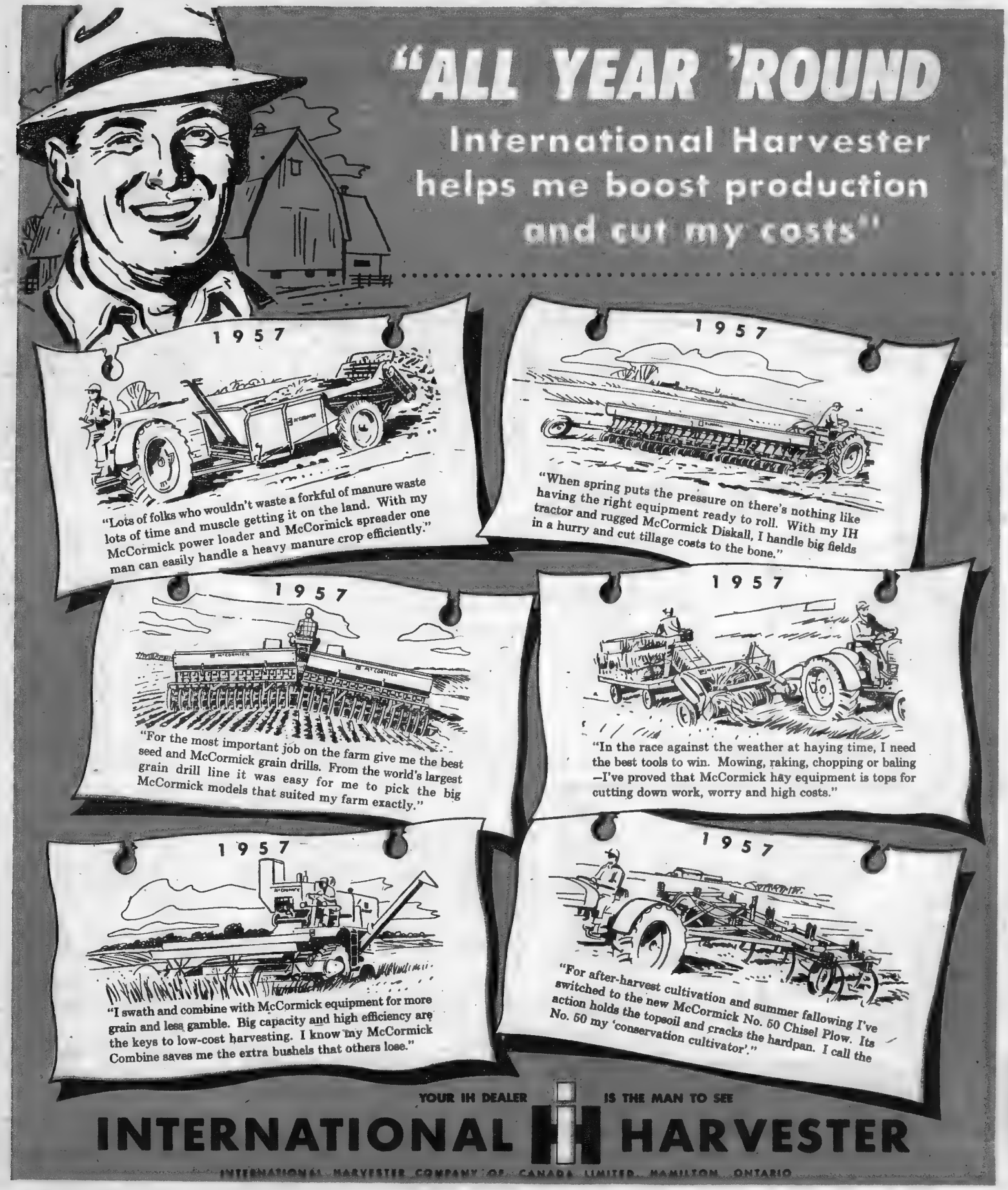
Saskatoon meats brought good prices, but no records like the $1,040.00 paid for a 32-pound dressed turkey at the Calgary Poultry Association show. They said it was a world's record price and I'll believe it.



Photo by Maisie Kozaky, Nipiwan
Lorne Kozaky, of Nipiwan, Sask., and his smart cow pony, "Ginger".



Photo by Robert Roder, Nakusp, B.C.
Ronnie Roder and pet.



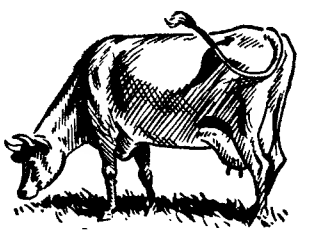
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The University of Missouri has what seems to be an effective test for dwarfism in cattle. Insulin is injected into the bloodstream. A dwarf's blood shows a sow increase in white cells after the injection. Pedigree clean animals have a strong and swift increase in such cells. So far tests have proven accurate.

* * *

There is no need to be alarmed at the prospect of an over supply of livestock in the near future. That is what Erle Rogers, livestock representative with the Saskatchewan department of agriculture, told a meeting of the Saskatchewan Field Husbandry Association. He said Saskatchewan farmers should produce more feeder cattle for others to finish. He also stated that a great opportunity existed in expanding the sheep production business.

* * *

MEAT CONSUMPTION IN CANADA

CONSUMPTION of meat products by Canadian people reached the record per capita figure of 184.9 lbs. in 1956, an increase of 3.7 lbs. over the 1955 figure, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The prosperous times with full employment at good pay which was experienced in Canada in 1956 was responsible for the substantial increase in meat consumption. The population consumed most of the meat produced in the country. Exports were small in numbers.

The per capita consumption figures for 1951, 1955 and 1956, in lbs. :

	1951	1955	1956
Beef	43.7	72.0	75.5
Veal	7.7	8.8	9.1
Lamb and mutton	2.6	2.8	2.8
Pork	67.7	58.0	56.5
Offal	5.3	5.7	5.6
Canned meats	6.5	4.2	4.4
Poultry meat	24.0	29.7	31.0
All meat	157.5	181.2	184.9

The total domestic consumption of meat in terms of animals was: Cattle, 2,500,000; calves, 1,450,000; sheep and lambs, 1,050,000; hogs, 8,050,000; fowl and chicken, 91,000,000; turkeys, 6,-200,000; geese, 300,000; ducks, 950,000.

* * *

Wayne Malmberg, of Spring Coulee, Alberta, imported a Charbray bull and heifer from the U.S.A. in 1955. That breed is a cross between the French Charolaise and the Guzerat or beef Brahma of India and is registered in the U.S.A. In 1956 Mr. Malmberg had 40 cross-bred calves resulting from the use of his Charbray bull on his Hereford cows. He claims the yearlings will be up to 75 lbs. heavier on the same feed, with bulls increasing by 400 lbs.

* * *

The grand champion Shorthorn bull and supreme champion Shorthorn of the Chicago International was Scotsdale Jupiter, owned by S. G. Bennett, of Georgetown, Ont.

* * *

The Cattle Of The Future

PEOPLE will eat more meat if the fat is in the right place, states Dr. Allan Fraser, lecturer in animal husbandry at Aberdeen University, Scotland. What the breeders of cattle should aim to provide, he maintains, is fat between and in the lean meat, which produces what is known as "marbling"

In the Young Farmer, a British publication, Dr. Fraser said the trouble with modern beef cattle is that, as a result of specialized breeding and sometimes expensive feeding, fat is laid on where it is not wanted, on the kidneys and under the skin. Most breeders of cattle, he maintains, haven't even begun to think about this. They haven't made a start and probably will not until they begin to judge beef bulls on the carcass quality of their offspring rather than on the impeccable paper pedigree of their dams.

This Scottish professor from the land where so many of our beef breeds come from also maintains that horns should be done away with. They are "monstrous, useless things," he maintains, create more labor in dehorning, a waste of beef in damage done, and require more room per critter. The future of cattle, says Dr. Fraser, rests with those animals that are naturally polled.

* * *

Recent changes in regulations under the Contagious Diseases Act, affecting animals, make it possible for a farmer to have his entire herd retested at the expense of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, when a Bang's test shows the herd to be infected with Bang's Disease. Fee for the first five head will be $1.00 per head and 50 cents per head thereafter, payable by the department to the veterinarian carrying out the test.

Hog Prices In Alberta

THE Alberta Livestock Co-operative states that prices of butcher hogs in Alberta have been established by the marketing of only 5% of total deliveries. At Edmonton only one commission firm sells hogs on a competitive basis. Other firms use the hogs consigned to them to fill their own orders. At Lethbridge hogs are not sold until after the Calgary price is established, after which a price 25c less is established. At Calgary all commission firms offer their market receipts on a competitive basis. In effect the Calgary market establishes the price for nearly all of Alberta hogs, but with few public market receipts, the effectiveness of the market is nearly lost.

* * *

HOG NUMBERS

According to the Dominion bureau of statistics, the number of hogs on Canadian farms on the first of December, 1956, was 5,550,000 head. This is a decrease from the same date of 1955 when the hog population was 5,981,000. This decrease was general, although more marked in Western Canada (12 per cent) than in Eastern Canada (4per cent).

The hogs on Eastern farms on the first of last December totalled 3,201,000, while on Western farms there were 2,349,000 head. The Western figure broke down in the following following order:

Manitoba	307,000
Saskatchewan	562,000
Alberta	1,435,000
British Columbia	45,000

* * *

HOG MARKETING

The hog marketing year begins on each October 1. In the 1955-56 hog year 6,169,680 hogs were delivered to Canadian packing plants. 7% more than the previous year.

Deliveries were heavy in the early months of the year and prices edged towards the floor figure — $23 per cwt. in Toronto, $18.50 in Alberta. Later on in the year supplies dwindled and prices rose.

Average weekly disappearance in Canada for the 12 months was 108,000 hogs a week. This heavy consumption saved the pork producer.

Hog production has gone down. Spring farrowings were 11% smaller than the previous year, and fall farrowings 15% down. Prices should continue satisfactory. Most of last year Canadian prices were above those prevailing in the U.S.A. Because of danger from infectious disease no imports are permitted from south of the border.

* * *

The digestive system of a pig is totally different from that of a cow. Nature created a pig to live on high nutritive feeds low in fibre, on the other hand a cow has a digestive system especially designed to handle large quantities of feeds high in fibre and roughage. Pigs get sick because of too much roughage and cows get sick because of not enough roughage.

* * *

The death toll of little pigs is often due to lack of iron. They should be treated on the 3rd, 10th and 18th day with reduced iron. Half the amount that lies flat on a dime is the recommended dose. Better still, use a paste form that comes in a tube or a liquid preparation in plastic bottle. Out of 5,213,000 little pigs born in Western Canada, between December, 1955, and June, 1956, 913,000 died.

* * *

Canada's reserves of uranium ore total 225,000,000 tons, compared with the 60,000,000 tons reserve in the U.S.A.

The Philosophy Of Kindness To Dumb Animals

By F. W. TWILLEY,
Swan River, Manitoba

WE should always be kind to animals, not only because it is right and proper, but because it pays to do so. Animals, both wild and domesticated, respond to kind treatment.

To hit a cow with the milking stool for kicking the pail from between your legs does not do any good. You are likely to break the stool. Much better to look for the cause. It may be that it is not the cow at all. If it turns out to be the cow, the plan adopted by a neighbor of mine might be the answer. He was a big, powerful man and his way with a cow he had that kicked was to put his head under its stomach and lift its hind legs off the floor. It's a fact!

Take oxen, I have had four different yokes in my lifetime but I never took a whip to one of them as many drivers did. It seems to me that when a beast has given the best it knows how with little in return in the way of food or care it deserves something better than a whip. A stick with a nail on the end of it is much better and cheaper too with nails at five cents a pound. But even so this means of persuasion should only be resorted to if urging by the free use of basic English fails to work.

Why should it be necessary for so many farmers, when loading hogs, into a wagon box, to resort to so free a use of the stick and jump about like mad men? All that is needed is to back up to the chute and put some chop in the box. It is quite surprising how quickly the pigs will go into the box to get at the feed. Even more surprising how quickly they will come out again before you get to the end gate to shut it. There is always a good demand for hogs and if they will not go in the wagon one week they probably will the next.

It is said that elephants never forget an injury. Neither do I when it comes to that. When I was a youngster, eight or nine of us paid a penny for a ride on an elephant, we went up a ladder and I did not get a good seat but was put on the rear end. When the elephant started to walk around the arena, the mean old pachyderm dropped me off into the sawdust, and I did not have another penny.

I hold no grudge. If I was to see one coming along the sidewalk, which is most unlikely, I would not take revenge by pushing it off on to the road, but would make way for it. After all, the one I am speaking of may not have bounced me off on purpose.

Androcles and the Lion

When I say that it pays to be kind to animals I am thinking of Androcles, a Roman slave, who used to lead about the streets a lion that had forborne to injure him when turned loose upon him in the circus. The story is related on the authority of an eyewitness (name given on request) who states that Androcles, having taken refuge from the severities of his master in a cave in Africa, a lion entered the cave and presented to him his swollen paw from which Androcles extracted a large thorn.

Unfortunately we have no lions in these parts so will not have the opportunity to render a like service, but we have bears and other animals that may need our attention. Sometimes bears get into difficulties wherein they need help. We have heard of them sometimes getting the head stuck in a tin can or like receptacle and being unable to extricate themselves, unless given help, they would most likely starve to death.



Photo by Walter Barry.
Lynx in trap.

It would perhaps be necessary to secure them to a tree with a rope in order to pry the can off otherwise the job could not be done. If the operation was successful it may be asked what then? How to untie the rope? It may of course be necessary in order to do this to pop the can on again. Anyhow the bear must not be allowed to die of starvation.

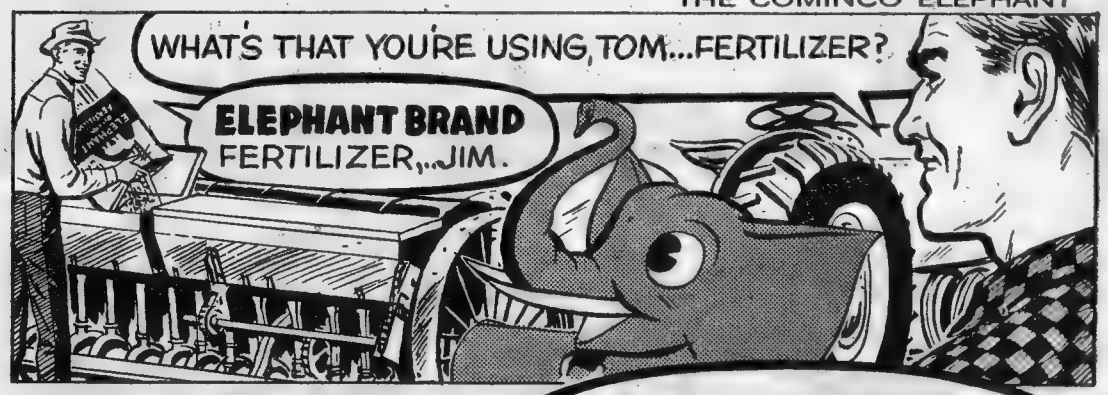
This magnificent creature in the picture has been unlucky enough to put its foot in a trap. It would like to be free again to wander at will in the woods. I would like nothing better than to spring the trap and set it free. To do this it would be necessary to have the poor thing co-operate and it does not look as if it is inclined that way, Perhaps a way will suggest itself to your readers.

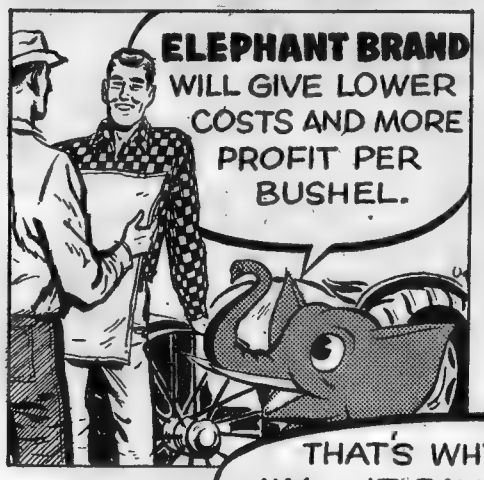
When your neighbor's dog rushes out to the road and knocks you off your bicycle, don't get mad. Just pat it if you have something handy to pat it with. Many of our best Watkins men and brush salesmen owe their success to their wonderful handling of dogs. But for this faculty many of them would still be farming.

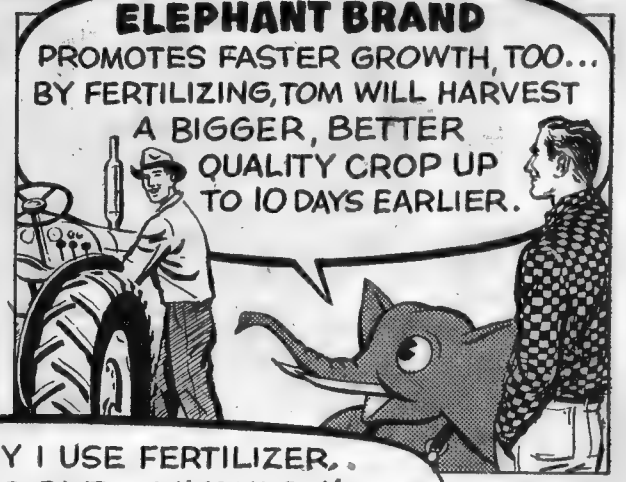
If a skunk has taken residence under your house you may rest assured that you will no longer be bothered with rats and mice, magazine aubscription agents or photograph enlargers. It is much better than a watch dog in that it requires no payment of tax and no collar to attach. With this animal on guard your jewellery will be as safe as ever it was at Woolworths before you bought it, as burglars for some reason seem to keep clear of houses where a skunk is kept.

While not anti-social, skunks are undemonstrative and dislike a lot of stroking and petting. Just wish to come and go as they please, and it is just as well to let them do so, especially the latter.

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Fighting Weeds At Seedtime

TESTS at Swift Current indicate the first crop in the spring is weeds. This means that delayed seeding may allow destruction of the weeds before the cash crop goes in. The proof shows up in the percentage of dockage in the yield.

Planting at the Dominion Experimental Farm from April 24 and May 4th gave a yield of an average of 27 bushels at the combine. But because of dockage, the actual yield of wheat was about 20 to 21 bushels. Delaying the seeding until May 11th not only increased the combine yield to 34 bushels, but also decreased the dockage to 13 per cent to give a 30-bushel crop of wheat. Delaying seeding even further to May 22 and destroying the weeds, resulted in only 2 per cent dockage with a bumper yield of 40 bushels of wheat actually produced.

POULTRY FEEDING

Many poultrymen try to keep egg production high during the winter by a careful adjustment of their feed ratios. Using about equal parts of grain and mash, and supplementing the feed with two to three pounds of pellets per hundred birds, they hope they can keep their hens on the job. Not necessarily so, says R. H. McMillan, the poultry commissioner for Alberta. He suggests that keeping the TOTAL feed consumption high is more important than watching the ratio of constituents. For if a bird is a heavy layer, a plentiful supply of feed is necessary to both keep up egg production and maintain healthy body weight. The actual amount to feed depends on the size of the bird and its production. District agriculturists can supply charts to guide poultrymen.

MORE SHEEP NEEDED

In its 38 years of existence the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Ltd. has made substantial achievements in marketing the wool delivered to it by the membership. But the organization thinks there is much to be done in expanding the sheep industry in Canada. Says the official organ, Canadian Wool Grower, "this is a problem that can well fall for solution on the intelligent enthusiasm and determination of the younger generation of flock owners."

The fact is that not enough wool is produced in Canada, and the association thinks the logical solution is to persuade more people to raise sheep. The consumption of lamb in Canada is only three pounds per capita. This could be greatly increased if butchers could be assured of steady supplies of lamb or mutton to justify them in making an effort to provide it on call.

The wool growers co-op. handles between 70% and 80% of all Canadian shorn wool passing through registered warehouses. But it could handle a far greater volume if same was available, with little extra cost in overhead

---

The Matador Co-operative Farm, 40 miles north of Swift Current, Sask., has been in operation for ten years. It was started by seventeen war veterans and includes 10,000 acres of land. Assets now total around $300,000, including $90,000 in farm machinery. The families live in modern homes with all conveniences of urban residents. Net profits are distributed according to the number of hours each man works. Such are in addition to a "wage" of $150 a month paid to each man. About 160,000 bushels of grain, much of it in open piles, has yet to be marketed.

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Farmers Form Fire Department

By JOE BALLA

TWO hundred and forty farmers within an eight-mile radius of Coaldale, 10 miles east of Lethbridge, in the heart of Southern Alberta's irrigation country, have united to form what is known as the "Coaldale Rural Fire Protection Association," understood to be the first organization of its kind in the province.

Although the idea was conceived about four years ago, as the district's farmers gathered around the old cook stove to warm up while they were building their artificial ice curling rink, it wasn't until a blaze swept through most of John Nicol's farmstead last year that the idea developed roots and action was taken.



Coaldale's rural and town fire protection units shown with a crew of trained volunteer local fire fighters ready to answer any call on a moment's notice.

In the John Nicol fire, 85 tons of hay in a stack, 20 tons in the hayloft, the barn, two tractors, a big chicken coop and other equipment to a total value of $8,500 were lost and it was only partially covered by insurance.

Although John Nicol was a well-established farmer, the fire struck a crippling blow.

Despite the fact that there are many good hand fire extinguishers on the market today which are easy to operate — some so simple that a child can skillfully manage — the fact still remains that the threat of a devastating fire poses as one of the major worries to the farmer. For although he may live only one-half mile from his nearest neighbor, fire could rampage through most of his farmstead and deal a crippling blow before help could be aroused.

It was with this in mind that the 240 farmers in the Coaldale district set about the task of forming their own fire protection unit. The unit consists of a $12,000 fully-equipped fire-fighting truck and a force of about 20 trained volunteer men, who are subject to call 24 hours a day. The main objective of the brigade is to stop a fire as soon as possible after it has started and to prevent it from spreading to other buildings which are often huddled on many farms.

Until the association received its own truck during the latter part of September, farmers in the district called on the town's fire brigade when a fire broke out.

Although the arrangement of using the town's fire-fighting equipment when the need arose, was working out well, some of the townspeople were expressing concern about what would happen if a fire broke out in the town while the town's men and equipment were out battling a blaze in the country. Residents of Coaldale admitted that perhaps it was a chance of only one in a thousand, but two fires could not be ruled out.

Following the Nicol fire, George King, Coaldale's native son town foreman and fire chief called a meeting of the district's farmers and sketched a basic working plan for a rural fire protective association. George had read about such a plan in American magazines. D. B. Ober, a well-known farmer in the district, was elected president. Because he was usually available at a central point, local Wheat Pool agent Jack Oliver was named secretary. Others elected to the executive included, J. Boorse, Steve Tolley, Henry Daine, H. Stevenson and Elton Knapp.

Discussions with the fire commissioner's office in Edmonton, Fire Chief W. H. Short, of Lethbridge, and others revealed that a good unit on a three-ton truck chasis would cost about $12,000. A survey was made of the immediate Coaldale district to see how many farmers would be interested so that membership fees could be based accordingly.

There was an immediate response from about 200 farmers, so the organization set a goal of 300 members within an eight-mile radius of Coaldale. Because of irrigation, intensive farming and small acreages, there are approximately 350 farmsteads within that area.

A membership fee of $45 per farmstead was established. Farmers with a separate set of buildings on adjoining land are required to buy two memberships if they want to receive the benefits of the fire fighting unit for all buildings. If the 300 membership is reached, it will give the association a paid initial capital of $13,500 — enough to pay for the truck and operating expenses for some time. If a non-member farmer calls for the assistance of the truck and the volunteer firemen, a first rate of $100 plus $25 per hour is charged. Expenses are expected to be small and therefore renewal yearly membership will be about $1.50 per member.

The rural fire protection unit is manned by the same 20 trained volunteer firemen who man the town's fire fighting unit. The 20 men are mostly town business and workmen, whose livelihood depends upon the well-being of the neighboring farmers.

Fire Chief George King has three captains working under him, each responsible for eight hours' call duty per day and under whom the balance of the men are split. All members have the phone numbers of Fire Chief King or Captain Joe Van Tal. One or the other must always be near their phones or have some responsible person ready to take a call in their place.

When a fire call is received, the siren is sounded to alert all firemen. Every available fireman must answer the call, especially the captain and his team on call duty. By this time the recipient of the call is at the fire station with the location of the fire.

The first two men to the station grab their coats and helmets and take the truck to the fire, leaving a note where they have gone. The rest of the men subject to call duty follow in cars or trucks.

The rural truck has a 450-gallon water tank which is kept constantly filled. The pump on the truck has a capacity of 500 gallons per minute at 120 pounds pressure. It is equipped with a 1½" line and a 1" booster line, plus 700 feet of 2½-inch hose, 400 feet of 1½" hose, 200 feet of one-inch hose, a 12-foot and a 24-foot aluminum extension ladder, picks, axes, crow-bars, extra nozzles, two five-gallon cans of water, 20-pound dry chemical and a 30-pound C02 extinguisher, two portable pumps run by 7½-horse-power Wisconsin motors, major first-aid kit, resuscitator, two oxygen respirators and two MSA smoke masks.

Most of the men have had civil defence fire-fighting training and some hold St. John's Ambulance First Aid certificates. Both the town and rural units are subject to call at any time by the Lethbridge fire department and vice versa without charge either way. A similar rural organization is now being formed at Milk River. Practice calls are held regularly, with a 3 a.m. call not an oddity. Response according to Fire Chief King has been good, and Coaldale district farmers are enjoying a much needed protection at a small cost.

The people of New Zealand are tops when it comes to meat eating — 212 lbs. per capita per year. Australians come next with 201 lbs.; Uruguayans, 199 lbs.; Argentinians, 187 lbs.; U.S.A., 161 lbs., and Canadians, 187 lbs.

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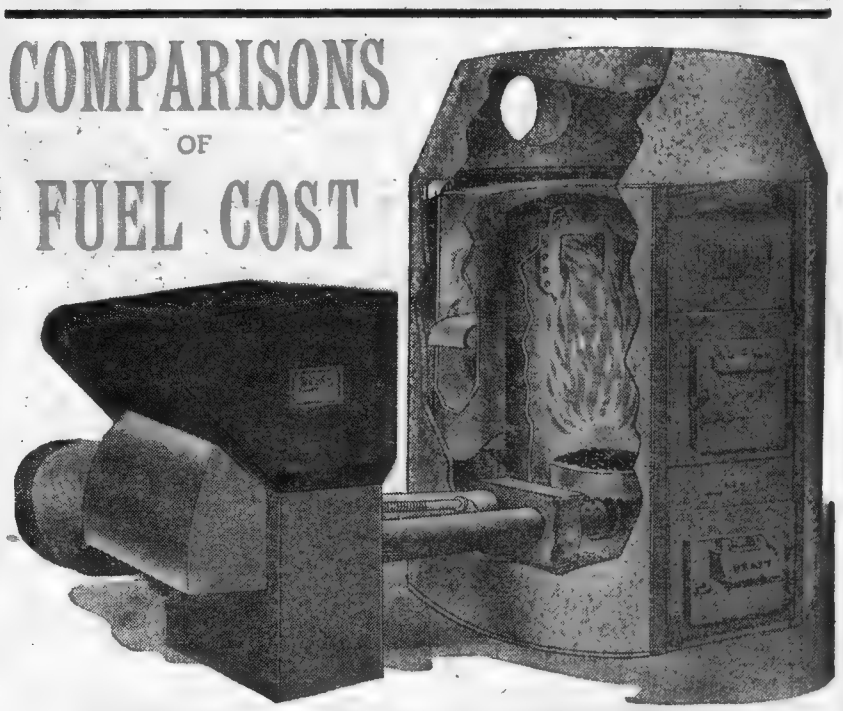
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8,000	EQUIVALENT	95	89	16	145
9,000	TO	107	100	18	164
10,000		119	111	20	182
11,000		131	122	22	200
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Canadian exports of durum wheat in the 1955-56 crop year totalled 13,466,263 bushels. Germany took the largest volume, 6,604,230 bushels.



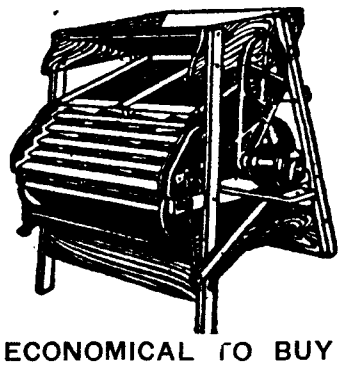


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Guy Weadick, Voice of The Range

By C. FRANK STEELE

TO meet the late Guy Weadick of the Highwood country and all points west, was an experience never to be forgotten. If the range country had a voice it was Weadick's. No more colorful a character ever crossed the stage in the earlier days of ranching in this country and no one knew the cowboy and his ways and language better than did the tall, lanky, Stetson-crowned founder and manager of the Calgary Stampede.

That was back in 1912. In that year he staged the show that may not have launched "a thousand ships", but it did launch the biggest frontier day event of its kind in the world. That is where the Calgary Stampede stands today — right on top. And a lot of the credit must go to Guy Weadick and the Big Four of the ranching era who backed him in the venture, for venture it was in those days — Burns, Cross, Lane and McLean.

There are a lot of phases to the life of Guy Weadick, a cowboy in his own right, rodeo star and impresario, dude rancher and writer of western yarns and gossip to mention only a few. He drifted in from the States in the early days and liked Canada so well he stayed, although he did head south for his "Last Round-up" after the High River and Calgary folks had given him a grand send-off just in time.

Guy had his own ideas about writing a western story. And we get a glimpse of him in his views on that subject.

Cowboy Stories and Songs

He had some very decided views on the yarns and songs of the cowboys and it was not hard to get him to unload. He used to put it this way:

"There is a lot of good western fiction being written and a lot that isn't so good. The bad is pretty raw, so raw one wonders how it gets by the editors. This is a type of the stuff that does the west no good and certainly creates a false idea of what the west was and is including the sort of people the early westerners were.

"Too many writers take a hand at writing western material without having even an elementary knowledge of western conditions or typical western characters. They write to a formula, you see, and often get into print but their work is definitely not convincing — not sincere, fresh, unfettered. It just doesn't click — with westerners."

Weadick took a swing at some of the cowboy songs that have made a hit, but not with the boss of the Stampede Ranch, neighboring spread to the "E P" of the Duke of Windsor.

"The writer of westerns should know his stuff by personal contact. He shouldn't get it either from drugstore cowobys. Take for instance that tremendous song hit 'The Last Roundup.' It has been hailed as a great cowboy song. Granted, it is a sensational song, but it isn't a genuine cowboy song. It has little of the character of the old songs of the range country although there are enough traces in both the music and words to put it across.

"That very word 'dogies' has been wildly mishandled. One can scarcely recognize that good old western term for a calf that's lost its mammy."

Then Guy used to get hot over the inconsistency in timing on the part of some of the boys — and gals — who write for the ranch mags, pulp and otherwise. Said he: "An annoying habit many of these writers have is setting their action in the present day with their characters dressed and acting and speaking as though the time was back in the gun-toting '80's. They forget the new setting of the ranch people — the telegraph, telephone, cars, paved roads, and the radio touch the lives of these people in the cattle country. The whole atmosphere has changed. Even under prohibition they were still writing about saloons, dance hall girls and gambling joints, with gunplay added in generous gobs. Today most of the ranch hands know more about mending a fence than handling a six-shooter."

Weadick on Cowboy Movies

Finally Weadick woud turn to the movies: "I really think the Hollywood boys have been the worst offenders. Some of the westerns and Mounted Police yarns put on the screen are pretty terrible. For instance, I recently noticed one film that pictured a crooked ranch foreman and his cowboy henchmen in action in a big way. While trailing ahead of the outfit's cattle, they cut back all the calves from the cows during the day and stole them at night without the honest members of the outfit getting the slightest wind of what was going on.

"I wondered at the time if the honest boys of that crew were both deaf and blind, for I was picturing the kind of noise those cows and calves would be making going along that trail all day and being separated from each other. Sucking calves and their mummies have a way about them that is extremely noticeable under these circumstances."

As for Canadian Mounted Police yarns that make the grade somehow, Weadick admitted some were fair but a lot were awful. Said Guy: "I know a lot of Mounties and boy, do they ever get a kick out of some of the yarns and pictures! Often these boys who 'get their man' would much prefer the 'man' to be the author of some of the drivel than the real object of their quest. Then, why authors always pick corporals as the officers who do all the heroics is difficult to fathom. Moreover, he is invariably wearing his (dress) red coat, felt hat and parade uniform regardless of where he may be or what he may be doing."

Summarizing Weadick always said: "If I were these writers of westerns and Canadian frontier yarns I would come west and meet the ranch folk—and let them talk. Too many want to do the talking so that what they are after will fit into the old pattern they are familiar with. Why not write about ranching today — it still has lots of color? If the writers talk too much the oldtimer will close up like a clam. The easterner looking for material should be a darn good listener. If he isn't, one of these days he is going to run into a fellow who'll be 'loaded' for him. And what a line he'll get."

Guy Weadick is gone now, gone with the West he knew as a youngster. But his last testament in telling the real Story of the West has a lot of truth in it.

LEGAL ADVICE:

Say it with flowers,
Say it with eats,
Say it with kisses,
Say it with sweets,
Say it with jewelry,
Say it with drink,
But always be careful
Not to say it with ink!

Federation Deals With Union

THE Canadian Federation of Agriculture has taken the stand that any moves towards amalgamation with the Farmers' Union must be taken by the provincial organizations.

A proposal for the uniting of the two organizations was presented to the annual convention of the Federation held in Winnipeg, by the Interprovincial Farm Union Council. There was a feeling at the convention that the plan proposed would result in the disappearance of the Canadian Federation if adopted. The proposition was referred to the executive.

The British Columbia delegates were unenthusiastic about any amalgamation. C. E. S. Wall, of B.C., said his province's agricultural interests were similar to those of the provinces of Eastern Canada. It was intimated that B.C. might pull out if the Federation was united with the Farmers' Unions.

The Farmers' Union strength lies mainly in the prairie provinces, while the Federation is strong in Eastern Canada. W. J. Parker, of Winnipeg, warned about any move towards separation which would leave the farm organization in the prairies in an isolated position, and would antagonize farmers in Eastern Canada and B.C. and weaken the whole farm movement across Canada.

STAMPEDE WEEK ATTRACTION

Announcement was made by General Manager Maurice E. Hartnett that the Exhibition has bought the internationally known Polock Brothers' Circus of New York as a special entertainment feature for the Stampede Corral during Stampede week, July 8 to July 13.

The big three-ring circus, which usually plays the big cities of the Eastern United States, and which has never before been seen in Western Canada, carries more than a score of production numbers including Captain Eddie Kuhn's wild animal "fighting" act, a troupe of Elephants, Walter Jenning's Seals, and a large number of high trapeze and novelty acts.

Arrangements were completed for the appearance of the Circus at a meeting attended by Mr. Hartnett, H. G. Love, chairman of the Attractions Committee, Sam Pollock, owner of the Circus and Jim Hetzer of New York, head of a large theatrical booking agency



Prevent Cannibalism in Chicks

By Margherite Jean Durling

MANY housewives at this season of the year are supplementing the farm income with baby chicks. If they start from scratch as we did they will appreciate these pointers which we have learned by experience.

We started with 520 day-old chicks of the Leg-Hamp. variety. At one-month old, we still had 516, four were killed accidentally.

Get your chicks from a reputable hatchery, use a chick starter of proven value recommended by the hatchery. The first week is the critical time for baby chicks, they require almost constant attention. We kept ours in the kitchen in corrugated cartons, 50 in each carton, so that we could keep them under surveillance at all times.

We put papers on the floor, fenced them with the cartons to feed and water them. Keeping them in the cartons eliminated crowding overnight.

The second week we fenced off part of the basement around the furnace, papered the cement floor with corrugated cartons covered with straw, turned down one of the heat pipes and shut off the heat to the upper floor. We kept the ceiling light on to keep the chicks busy. No other brooder or heat lamp was used. We reduced the heat the third week until they had none at all. We gave them plenty of mineral-free water with a few granules of potassium permanganate added, about 2 granules to a quart or enough to turn the water faintly pink. (P. P. is obtainable at any drug store.)

Provide chick starter in open troughs and add grit, after the third day, dried and finely crushed egg shells may be added with good results. Supplement the chick starter with coarsely-ground oats about the fifth day. If they start "picking", peel large potatoes and lay in the pen for the chicks to pick at. My chicks ate a pail of potatoes (raw) daily. Cabbage is also good if obtainable. One level teaspoon salt added to one gallon drinking water seems to curb the desire to pick.

Remove any "picked" chicks immediately. Very bad wounds should be daubed with a solution of potassium permanganate twice as strong as in the drinking water, then apply anti-pic salve. Keep separate until they heal.

Cannibalism is the result of mass production, overcrowding, overheating and vitamin deficiency. Get the chicks out in the sunshine as quickly as possible. Sunshine is essential to growth and strength. We put ours out in the chicken house with a screened yard in front for sunning and a pan of ashes for dusting. Do not feed wheat in any form until the chicks are outdoors and then only when combined with other grains. Continue feeding potatoes until they can get grass.

If a heavily laying flock is left without water for a single day, egg production will drop to a considerable extent.



Photo by Rosemary Broemeling, Daysland, Alta.

David Broemeling, on left, with arm around his pet calf, "Koetke". On right is Joanne Broemeling with her pet "Penny".

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AMAZON LEGHORN-HAMPSHIRE CROSSBREDS are thrifty. **LEG-HAMPS** are much heavier than a pure light breed, giving better meat returns while maintaining reasonably high-producing qualities of the White Leghorn. Whatever breed you prefer will give most satisfying results when you select **PRINGLE AMAZON CHICKS.** Try them this time!

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	Pullets 96% Gtd.	$34.70 per 100
FOR DELIVERY AFTER MARCH 3	Unsexed	$17.85 per 100
	Pullets 96% Gtd.	$36.70 per 100

COCKEREL PRICES

FOR DELIVERY TO MARCH 3rd	
White Leghorns	$ 2.75 per 100
Leghorn-Hampshires	6.75 per 100
Heavy Breeds	13.85 per 100
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White Leghorns	$ 3.75 per 100
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FOR DELIVERY TO MARCH 3rd	Unsexed	$16.85 per 100
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FOR DELIVERY AFTER MARCH 3	Unsexed	$17.85 per 100
	Pullets 96% Gtd.	$29.70 per 100

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Unsexed	$17.85 per 100
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Howard D. Lusk, Resident Manager, Poultry Improvement Commission.

NOT SOLD UNSEXED.

100's $42; 50's $22; 25's $11



Method of Payment to Members of their Equities

A change in the method of paying out our Members' Equities (or if you like "dividends") was announced in our column of the Farm and Ranch Review issue of December, 1956, and previously in the management's half yearly statement which went out to members early in 1956. A good deal of interest has been shown by the members regarding this change and the management is of the opinion that a further announcement with some clarification of the new proposal would help to clear up some points on which you may not be too certain.

In the first place this change was made upon the suggestion of the Directors and passed by the delegate body by a motion at the Annual Meeting in 1954. It required a constitutional amendment to effect this change and at the Annual Meeting in 1955 the amendment to the constitution, which would bring about the change in distribution of members' equity, was put to the meeting and was adopted.

In our column of the November issue of the Farm and Ranch Review there is a comprehensive survey of the methods used for the distribution of our surpluses since our organization commenced operations up to the time of this change. It makes interesting reading and, as every member of the C.A.D. Pool receives a copy of the Farm and Ranch Review, the issue of November, 1956, should be read again.

THE CHANGE:

Members' equities which are shown in their Pass Books will accumulate and act as a fund that will be available for use upon your retirement from active farming. I nthis way, instead of receiving a smaller yearly payment, the accumulation of these final payments can constitute a fund for you which becomes payable in cash under the following conditions:

(1) When a member is deceased, the estate can request prepayment of his or her participation credits.

(2) When you reach the age of 70 years and have retired from active farming.

(3) If upon reaching the age of 75 years the member is still actively farming, payment will be made of the accumulated equities and after that each current year's final payment to that member will be paid in cash as promptly as possible after the end of each yearly period.

At their December, 1956, meeting your Board of Directors set aside the sum of $55,000.00 out of our 1956 operations to meet these obligations to members in those three categories.

Likely some of our members prefer a final payment programme wherein he or she would receive some cash payment each year from some final payment credit to that member from some earlier year's operation. However, as our members receive at least full market price for their products to our plants at time of delivery, nothing has been held by for the plants to operate with. In addition credit has been passed on to each member from each year's operations continuously without a break since 1939, and your organization has meantime grown in size some and greatly increased in strength.

Your Board of Directors gave this latest plan close study before recommending it to the delegate body. We invite you to weigh carefully the various features of this plan. If you do, your Board feels you might agree it is a good plan. This plan does not preclude an extra yearly dividend as and when (a) the payments for estates of members and (b) those who have retired from active farming and are at least 70 years of age, have been brought up to date.

We suggest that you keep your Pass Book up to date. This can be done by returning your book in the forepart of each year to Red Deer in its special envelope or handing your book in to the branch you do business with.

Pass Books can be sent in NOW.

New members who shipped to any of our branches for the first time in 1956 will receive their Pass Books by mail within the next three months.

Central Alberta Dairy Pool

"OWNED BY THE PEOPLE IT SERVES"



DAIRYING

Dairy Farmers Statement Of Policy

REPRESENTATIVES from every province, except Newfoundland, attended the annual convention of the Dairy Farmers of Canada, held in Winnipeg the third week in January, the attendance being 150. Each organization was allowed two voting delegates. Alberta had 8 voting delegates and 4 non-voting. James A. Wood, of Elnora, president of the Central Alberta Dairy Pool, and Alex. Ross, of Duhamel, director, were among Alberta's voting delegates.

The general policy statement for 1957, as adopted by the convention, included the following:

That active support be given to measures that will enable producer marketing boards to operate effectively.

That the federal government continue its policy of setting support prices for butter.

That the government prices board provide for an increase in the price of butter to the trade, sufficient to cover carrying charges.

That if practical, the government require all edible oils and fats, other than milk fats, carry a tracer to show the presence of same and prevent substitution for milk fat in dairy products.

That the import tariff on cheddar cheese be increased to 6c a lb., or, as an alternative, that the same be placed under the Export-Import Permits Act.

That the Dairy Farmers of Canada devise a school milk plan which may be used by member bodies in the provinces, as a basis for discussion with governments.

That efforts be made towards obing higher returns for butterfat in line with the rising economy of the country.

That a study be made to fix the value of solids, not fats, in fluid milk.

That research be conducted into the production of a milk can of improved design and quality.

That improved methods of packaging butter be studied.

That consideration be given to increasing the set-aside of funds for the advertising and promotion program, which has been quite successful.

Dairymen know brushing their cows keeps the milk cleaner. Brushing cows before milking removes loose hairs, dirt, and dust that might otherwise drop into the milk.

* * *

Milk production in Canada in 1956 is estimated by the Dominion bureau of statistics at 17,300,000,000 lbs., or about the same volume as produced in 1955.

* * *

Under no circumstances should herd replacement heifers be fed with protein supplements to which stilbestrol has been added, says W. C. Gordon, assistant livestock supervisor for Alberta. There is a danger of interference with reproduction later on in life.

* * *

If the nutrients in milk were to be purchased at the current rates of beef rib roast or pork tenderloin, a quart of milk would cost almost 50 cents. Here's how it breaks down: Protein, 45.6 cents; fat, 2.4 cents; carbohydrates, 1.4 cents; total 49.6 cents. The average price of milk to the consumer across Canada is about 21 cents a quart.

* * *

Milk cows require four gallons of drinking water for every gallon of milk produced. In wintertime they will not drink enough water unless the chill is taken off. For those who do not have an inside water supply, water warmers can be purchased at reasonable prices. They will pay for themselves in a short time even with a small herd.

* * *

The Alberta Ayrshire Breeders' Club recently met and elected officers as follows: President, Art Anderson, Calgary; vice-president, Walter Notley, of Olds; secretary-treasurer, Raleigh Smith, Calgary. It was planned to hold shows at Red Deer and Olds during 1957. Judges for the ensuing year; Wm. Savage, Ladner, B.C.; Brodie Ness, Quebec; John McCaig, Ottawa; A. L. Young, Brooks; Roland Ness, Calgary; Richards Bros., of Red Deer, were congratulated for their winnings at the Toronto Royal.

THE LIFE OF A DAIRYMAN

Stanley Benham, president of the Dairymen's League of New York state, in an address before the New York Farm Bureau, gave this advice to young men who are considering entering the dairy business:

"If you are that kind of a person and are willing to develop the necessary skill and to work many hours while other men are at leisure, then I would say go ahead with dairying, and you probably will not regret it. You may even leave your wife a larger estate than many a man in town with a good sized paycheck because you will not have had time to spend your money."

* * *

COWS THAT PAY THEIR KEEP

Half the dairy cows in British Columbia do not produce enough milk to make any profit for their owners, so said Dr. J. C. Berry, professor of animal husbandry at the University of B.C. He says money can be made by keeping high-producing cows and feeding them abundantly.

A cow producing 9,000 lbs. will show a milk revenue at $3 per 100 lbs. of $80.80 over feed costs.

A 12,000-lb. producer will show a milk revenue on the same basis of $138.40.

A 15,000-lb. cow of $205.00.

A 20,000-lb. cow of $272.20.

The range of feed costs rise with production being, for the producing cows listed above, $189.20, $221.60, $245.00 and $327.80. Those prices are for B.C. On the prairies they would be lower.

* * *

The federal government is planning a campaign against Brucellosis, better known as Bang's disease, in dairy cattle. It causes undulant fever in humans who consume milk from affected cows. In animals the disease causes abortions. The loss to Canadian dairymen is calculated at $9,000,000 a year. The federal plan is to operate in areas recommended by provincial governments, take blood tests of animals and destroy those suffering from the disease, compensating the owners therefor.

Ducks On My Doorstep

By LELA ANDREWS

I AM not a poultry enthusiast. I don't care for chickens, I dislike turkeys and I won't tolerate a goose on the place, but, strangely enough, I like ducks.

The whole thing started two years ago when my brother bought two Pekin ducks in a flurry of excited bidding at an auction sale. He brought them home and gave them to me and I fell for their charms, immediately.

The moment I opened the crate and turned them loose, I was captivated by them. Out they flopped, fat, quacky creatures that they were, and they waddled around the chicken house examining their new home with obvious curiosity and scaring the wits out of our old hens. They dived into the feed dish and shovelled down grain in huge, healthy gulps and, then proceeded to splash water all over themselves at the drinking fountain. In no time at all, they had devoured all the feed in sight, upset the remaining water all over the floor and I had an entire flock of egg-bound hens on my hands, squawking and cackling with fright. Having created such havoc, the ducks looked quite pleased with themselves and retired to one corner of the pen to preen their feathers and hold an excited ducklike conversation. I laughed and liked them immediately.

It did not take long to discover that our two ducks were not a pair, as we had supposed, but were, in fact, two hens. It's easy to tell. Drakes have curls in their tails and high, squeaky voices, but the hens have a gruff quack, quack that can be heard all over the barnyard. Our two were quacking away with true feminine volubility.

Imported a Husband

There was nothing to do, but import a husband for them from one of the neighbors. This we did. He and the girls hit it off immediately and I was in the duck business.

We gave them a little house to themselves and the run of the farmyard. I locked them in at night. During the day, however, they waddled over the farm, nibbling at grass and dandelions, chasing flies and grasshoppers and seeking out any water that remained in the ditches along the road. They required very little feed or attention.

Then, early in the spring, they started to lay. Ducks lay early in the morning and I always leave mine locked in until nine o'clock or later so that I will be sure of getting their eggs. Otherwise, they go off and hide their nests or else drop their eggs indiscriminately around the yard. I wanted those eggs. I had several setting hens and I wanted to put duck eggs under them and hatch out some ducklings. And that was exactly what I did.

Duck eggs take four weeks to hatch and, like goose eggs, they require some moisture. I usually let my setting hens off every two days to eat and drink and, before they get on the nest again, I sprinkle their eggs lightly with water. It's also a good idea when preparing a nest for duck eggs to put a thin layer of soil in the bottom of the nest and, also, the straw. This soil will absorb moisture and stay damp all through the hatching period. Ducks, if left to their own devices, will dig down to damp earth to nest in. During the last two days before hatching, though, the eggs should be left dry.

The Water Test

Of course, curiosity got the best of me and I couldn't wait to see how many of my eggs were going to hatch. I had to test them beforehand. So a week before the eggs were due to hatch, I went out with a pan of lukewarm water and floated them. It wasn't difficult to see how many live ducklings I had. Bad eggs or eggs with dead ducks in them sink to the bottom immediately. Eggs containing live ducks float on the surface and dance and wiggle quite obviously, provided, of course, that their occupants are lively and healthy. Mine were.

That first year, I hatched over fifty ducklings, but I lost many of them from various causes. The pup killed one by playing catch with it in a playful manner around the dooryard. I suspect the cats relieved me of several more, although I never caught them in the act. But a long period of hot, dry weather stacked up the biggest death toll. Ducklings dropped over and died in minutes from no apparent cause. They weren't lousy and they all seemed strong. I concluded that the heat was just too intense. Ducklings do better where they have access to shade and when the weather is cool.

By fall, I had close to forty ducklings left and we were running them in two large flocks. They were big birds, now, large and plump, and they were almost ready for market. Most of them were white, but, to my surprise, some were spotted, too, and one was very dark and had a funny, dark tassle on her head. I called her Mrs. Tuftedhead and intended to keep her because she was so funny looking.

Those Doggone Coyotes

Two marauding coyotes spoiled my plans, however. They paid us an early morning call and came right up into our backyard and raided the duck pens. We never heard the commotion, but, when we went out that morning, we certainly knew what had happened. Ducks were scattered everywhere, some lame, some bleeding, some simply frightened and one had a broken back. The carcasses of dead ones littered the dooryard. Mrs. Tuftedhead was among them.

About thirty ducks remained and these I raised successfully to market weight. I had been told everyone who came along and observed the ducks that there simply wasn't a market for them. Nobody wanted ducks. But I soon found out that such was not the case. I sold all of my ducks and could have sold more.

A few, I sold locally to neighbors who fancied roast duck for Sunday dinner, but the majority of them went to the Chinese people who run the local cafes and restaurants in town. Chinese people love ducks. Best of all, they buy them alive and you are spared the task of plucking and cleaning them.

Chinese Customers

I also discovered that the Chinese will buy duck eggs. They will purchase them all year around if you can keep your duck hens laying. They like to eat them. I understand that they prepare a certain Chinese sauce. This they pour in a small opening which they make in one end of the egg. The egg is left just that way for several days and then eaten. They do not cook them. Our family find duck eggs too strongly flavored for their taste, but we do use them in cooking.

This year, I kept four duck hens and two drakes — it is advisable to have a drake for every two hens — and the eggs I don't use or set, I will sell to the Chinese. I expect to sell them ducks again in the fall, too.

So it appears that not only are my ducks friendly, likable fowls, but they can also be raised with an eye towards profit. My nieces and nephews adore them, the whole family is interested in them and we all trip over them quite consistently on the doorstep.

As ducklings they are troublesome. They eat often and a great deal and they require constant care and attention, but I'll keep on raising them because, when you get right down to it, I like having ducks on my doorstep.

CORRECTION

At the Alberta Provincial Poultry Show held in Calgary the grand champion in the turkey class was won by a young hen shown by Irma Biebrick, of Carbon, Alberta. The hen weighed 21½ pounds, oven-ready, and was sold for $6 a pound, a total of $129.00.

The reserve championship in turkeys was won by a young tom exhibited by Leo Biebrick which weighed, oven-ready, 34½ lbs., and was sold for $13 a pound, a total of $448.00.

Mr. and Mrs. Biebrick and family were the producers of these turkeys.

The turkey that brought $1,056 was grand champion in the heavy-weight division.

This item corrects a report of the winners which appeared in the last issue of this publication.

At the present rate of increase in cattle numbers in Canada, some 200,000 a year, the total will rise over the next ten years from 10.2 million to 12.2 million. That is substantially less than the population will require, according to W. E. Watson, manager of the St. Boniface Public Livestock Markets Ltd.

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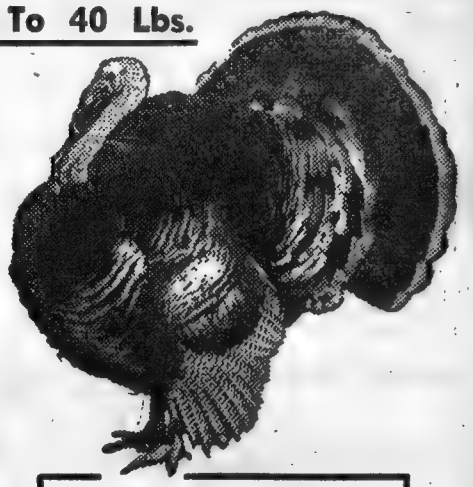
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Stories Of Pioneer Ukrainian Days

By WM. GRASIUK

THE time is just the turn of this century; the place is a homesteader's small, white-washed, earthen floor home, nearly one hundred miles away from the nearest railway centre. There is much activity and excitement therein for the homesteader is making preparations for one of his infrequent trips to Edmonton. There are many neighbors present with eggs or butter or muskrat pelts and their orders to purchase the necessities of life. There is a son of a recently-arrived immigrant who has heard of construction jobs on a railway project and intends to make his grubstake in that form of employment. A young girl bids her tearful mother good-bye; she is leaving for Edmonton where there is a great demand for maids.

The trip will take six days. Two days to Edmonton, two there for business and relaxation and two back home. It is made over rough meandering trails, that nevertheless have a certain pattern. They more or less parallel a river or a chain of lakes. There are stopping places on the way. Any place that supplies water and grass for the oxen or horses, and firewood for the humans will do for the noon-day stop, but come what may the regular camping places must be reached for the overnight stop. There were two of them. One was north of the present town of Chipman and the other some distance from Bruderheim. They were beautiful spots overlooking a river valley. There was no dearth of luscious pasture or dry firewood in their vicinity. There were numerous water fowl in the lakes nearby and many a fat mallard fell victim to the stalking prowess of the traveller. At night the trees of the woods abounded with partridges just begging to be taken, and they were; for one piece of equipment on these trips was a long, thin pole with a wire snare at one end; and it was so simple to go out at dusk and in a matter of minutes return with the partridges!

Ukrainian Hotels

These two stopping places were dubbed the "Ukrainian Hotels," and it was not uncommon to see as many as ten wagons there in a single night. The fires were kept going most of the night for how could the homesteaders sleep when this was there first trip outside in three months and they were so news-hungry, and there was so much to talk about. But finally one by one they would retire, for dawn comes so early to the weary ones. At the break of day the woods would echo and re-echo to the sound of chopping. It was an unwritten law that a pile of dry firewood and kindling be kept in camp for the next comers.

Peter Yurchin, now deceased, had quite an experience on one of these trips. He then used oxen and so happened that he travelled alone. It was passed noon; the day was very hot and humid and since Peter started rather late it was quite a problem to keep the oxen going. At last a lake was sighted and Peter stopped. The oxen were unhitched from the wagon and left standing while Peter went to investigate a bright object that he saw some distance away. When he returned the oxen were not in sight. The water was too tempting for them. They walked right into the lake and began to drink their fill. It was all right with Peter, but he grew impatient when instead of coming out they began to nibble the grass that grew in the shallow water and to keep on going and going parallel to the shore with no intention of coming out of the lake. Peter coaxed, he pleaded, it did no good. He scolded, he swore, no effect. He threw chunks of clay and small stones at them, but the oxen simply tossed their heads, gave low bellows and continued to enjoy the delicious water plants. In desperation, Peter shed his clothes, waded into the water and led the oxen out.

"I was in a sweat when I was in the water," Peter said. "I never was much for diving, so what was I to do suppose some people, that is the feminine ones, had driven by, fortunately none did."

The Indian Dinner

Metro Denchik was once treated to an epicurean dish. His hosts were the Cree Indians. One late summer day while Metro was making one of his infrequent trips to Edmonton he came upon an encampment of Indians. It wasn't quite stopping time, but Peter had heard vague stories about the redskins. He was an inquisitive, obtrusive sort of a guy, so here was a chance to satisfy his curiosity. He stopped, unhooked his horses, watered them, had them hobbled, and let them out to grass. He took out his "makings", rolled a cigarette, stuck it in his mouth, and began to search in his pockets for a match. He had matches of course, but he had a ruse up his sleeve. It was to play a role of a matchless wayfarer dying for a smoke. So by using gestures and sign language he approached the camp. The redskins supplied Metro with a light and asked him to sit down. In the meantime the squaw got out a plate and filled it with a stew from the pot. This she handed to Metro. He accepted it with alacrity. He filled his mouth with the savory food and made a wry face. "H'm, no salt here," he said, 'but no matter I have some in my wagon." He brought it, salted the stew and began to eat with gusto. "Very good deer meat," said Metro.

"Him no deer, him —" began the Indian.

"Oh, young moose," said Peter, smacking his lips, "me love moose."

"Him no moose," the Indian replied, "him many —"

"Young rabbits," said Denchuk, "nice young bunnies," as he ate with relish.

"No, not rabbits, rabbits no good now; him gopher, many, many gopher."

Peter got up in a hurry. Ah, ah, ah, ah was all the noise he made as he ran towards his wagon. Afterwards he saw the Indian coming toward him. He became uneasy for he thought the Indian was offended by his hasty retreat. But the honest Indian was only returning the salt shaker that he had forgotten in his haste.

One bearded, moustachioed homesteader, Peter, painfully recalls one incident. One hot autumn afternoon he dozed off on a wagon. He forgot to take the cigar he was smoking from his mouth. The cigar, by the way, was given him by the Edmonton merchant for free because of the large order Pete had given him. So, while Peter dozed, the cigar smouldered till finally there was a sizzling sound, an acrid smell and a yelp of fright. The cigar had singed Pete's facial hirsute adornment. Poor Pete! for many and many a day he had to bear the gffaws of everyone. And if any party gathering would become dull it only needed the reliving of Pete and the cigar to liven it up.

Ukrainian Romance

True love never did run smooth, at least not for Harry and Nancy who were much in love but of different faiths. Harry was a Greek Orthodox; Nancy was a Catholic. "Harry will be permitted to marry Nancy," said his mother, "if she becomes an orthodox." "We have nothing against Nancy marrying Harry," said her parents, "but he must embrace the Catholic faith." So they could not get married. But just before Pentecost, Harry and Nancy were on the way to Edmonton. Each with a different homesteader and each hiding the fact from the parents that the other one was going. At night at the "Ukrainian Hotel," north of Chipman plans were made to defy the parents. With the connivance of the sympathetic homesteaders they decide to get married by a Presbyterian minister if their parents remained adamant. But it was not necessary. Their two homesteader friends had a heart-to-heart talk with both parents. They were vague, but not vague enough to hint of scandal and disgrace. A wedding soon as possible was suggested. The matter of faith was forgotten. The two lovers were married by the Greek Orthodox priest because he was the most convenient. Nancy's mother began to sew the small things for her grandchild, but it was nearly two years before they were put to use. However, it was a long time before she spoke to her two wily neighbors. How she hated them for tricking her. But slowly all was forgiven.

Flax Growing In The West

APPARENTLY an increasing number of Prairie farmers are bypassing the wheat-surplus problem by shifting more acreage to flax.

Last year's flaxseed crop was an all-time record with an estimated 35 million bushels. That's a 77 per cent jump in flaxseed production over 1955 and more than three times as large as the ten-year average. It's true that the average yield increased by some four per cent last year over the year before, but the seeded acreage jumped some 71 per cent, and mostly on the prairies. In fact, the mixed farming land around Saskatoon accounts for more than a quarter of the national harvest.

In the 1930's Canada's production was just 14 per cent of U.S. production, but today, it is rapidly approaching 70 per cent. This is more than sufficient for Canada's national needs and a steadily increasing export trade is developing. As an increasingly abundant cash crop, it is putting money into the overall pockets of many hard-working Prairie farmers.

Flax finds its way into such diverse products as breakfast foods, cigarette paper and linoleum. But by far its biggest contribution to Canada's economy is its vital life-saving part in paint. Even the most modern paints from the industrial laboratories, which are composed of a variety of new synthetic resins still rely on vegetable oils to modify their qualities of flexibility, toughness and durability. The modifying oil most widely used is still linseed.

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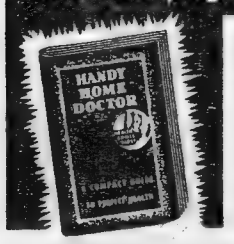
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The Trail To The Golden Years

By JAMES HANNAFORD

THE following wedding notice appeared in a Moosomin, Saskatchewan, newspaper in September, 1906: "Miss Emma Bromage, of Rushden, England, became the wife of James Hannaford, of Fairlight, Sask., at the home of her sister, Mrs. W. Flawn. Rev. J. A. Haw, minister of the Methodist church, officiated."

Arriving home by team and wagon next morning all was quiet and I thought the neighbors got tired of waiting and had left. I put the team in the stable and we went into the shack. But this seemed to be the signal for the charivari, and the neighbors cut loose with wash tubs, pails and bells and bedlam broke out.

My wife looked more like a scared rabbit than a blushing bride, but I knew what was up as I had participated in similar affairs when two neighboring weddings occurred. The folks came in with cakes, cookies and lemonade and we all had a good time.

Over the years the district had frozen crops and then rust appeared. We had only 160 acres and two boys came along and we had to look ahead, so we moved to what was then known as "the last great west", the pre-emption area of Southern Alberta.

We settled on a section of land in the Red Deer river country, 80 miles southeast of where Hanna is now and 60 miles from the railway at Brooks. When I look back, I think we must have had a lot of courage. My wife never saw another woman from October, through our first winter, until next winter. The homesteaders only stayed in the summer to do their six months' duties. We had a section of South African scrip so it took all our time to fulfill the residence requirements.

Son Had Narrow Escape

When putting up hay in the autumn of 1912 my wife and two boys went along for a load. Coming home we saw the cow tethered in the yard and my wife said, "give old bossie a forkful." I took the fork and drove it into the hay and when I felt it go through something and the little boy yelled, I said, "My God, what have I done!" We examined him and found the tines had gone on each side of his left arm and through his shirt, only one inch from his heart. I put the team in the barn and we went into the house and my wife and I thanked God for His mercy.

In 1913 I was getting quite a few stacks of wheat and no threshing machine in the district. I bought an outfit and went as far as the village of Chinook doing threshing. The jobs were small as most farmers had but ten acres in crop. At Bigstone we threshed for ten different farmers in one day.

We had 8 stook teams, a cook car and a cow, and my wife did the cooking. The cow was the main attraction and she went all the way up and back without a rope on her. The secret was that she had lost her calf in the spring and I had skinned it and stuffed the skin with hay and kept it in the back of the buggy and she followed it faithfully.

The next few years were bonanza ones with good crops. Fifty bushels to the acre was common with prices up to $2.00 a bushel. Land became valuable, many good houses were built, and also a school house. Lots of machinery was bought and the whole district was prosperous. Then the dry years came — 1918, 1919 and 1920, and the depression and the whole area went broke. Relief was provided in the form of dried fish, beans and apples and cheese. The federal government provided seed grain and feed, but 1919 was so dry that not a bushel was threshed in the entire area. Then in 1921 settlers were given free freight to move out and hundreds left, leaving buildings, schools, fences and unpaid taxes.

The Moveable Schoolhouse

The job of establishing the few that were left was quite a problem and schooling was a major one and we then had five children, and no school. There were 16 children of school age living in what was four regular school sized districts. My idea was to build a school in the centre so that all had to go four miles. We put it up to Edmonton and they sent out the late Mr. Gorman who found that the parents were all willing to send their children to the central point. He thought the plan was all right but there was no provision in the act to carry it out. But we all went together and put up a building and asked the department to supply a teacher. So four school districts were formed with School Inspector Boyce as trustee and myself as secretary, and on June 1, 1920, we opened school. We carried on for four years, and when a family in the southwest corner left we moved the school two miles north to be in the centre. We operated there for five years and had 26 pupils attending at one time. Then a family in the northwest moved out and we moved the school two miles east so as to be again in the centre. In the summer of 1929 a cyclone came along and ripped our old building to pieces and the department gave us a new one. It had been in operation for only one year when all the neighbors left and with three tractors and four teams we moved it to our centre and called it Vetford School. It served for many years as school, church and community hall.

Chosen as Chairman

In 1935, when Premier Aberhart was minister of education, he came out to investigate the school problem in the deserted districts. He placed the whole area in one big district under Mr. Thurber. This proved too much for one man and in 1936 the Berry Creek School division was formed with five elected trustees. At the first meeting I was chosen as chairman to gather up the pieces, for out of 70 schools only 14 were operating. I stayed with the job ten years, retiring in 1946, and we made a great improvement in education in that area.

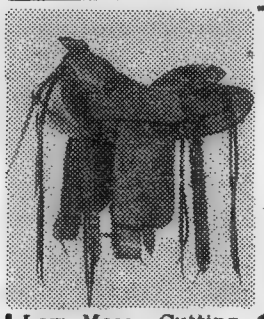
In the autumn of 1937 we were 37 head of cattle short and we rode everywhere in search of them, even suspecting rustlers. Then a neighbor came along and said he had seen a cow frozen in the river, under the snow. We went down with ice saws and scoop shovels to clear off a foot of snow and there were our cattle underneath in the ice.

The years that followed this loss saw improvement in the cattle business. Prices rose to an extent that enabled us to retire to Calgary in 1946. Having reached the "golden years" we built a home and developed a good garden and this year were awarded a first prize for it. The best of all we were able to celebrate our fiftieth anniversary with our family and friends—fifty years of happiness, well spent for God and our country!

India is planning to set up 10,000 large co-operatives to supply fertilizer, seed, implements and oil to farmers. Credit will also be provided for farmers, who will then have to sell their products through the co-operatives.

• • •

Here's to the man who is wisest and best,
Here's to the man who with judgment is blest.
Here's to the man who is as smart as can be—
I mean the man who agrees with me.



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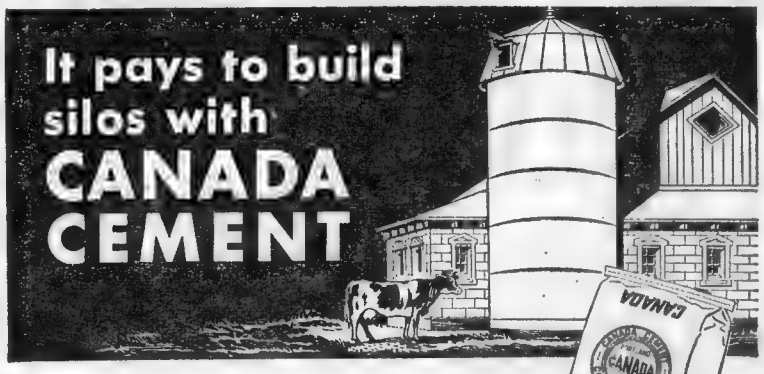


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Women's Page

"Aunt Sal" is in California recuperating from her serious illness, hence her column is not appearing in this issue. It is to be hoped that she will be back soon. A substitute supplied the material for this issue.

WELL, friends and neighbors, this isn't your good old friend Aunt Sal, but just another gal whose nickname used to be Sal.

I thought if you were missing Aunt Sal's column, and I know you will, I would try to fill in for this issue.

I thought I would send you a few recipes that go well in the colder weather.

We'll start with this one for dessert. It is very versatile as it can be used so many ways. I have made it with peaches, pears, apricots and different fruit but this is one of the favorites.

Pineapple Upside Down Cake or Pudding

Put a piece of butter the size of an egg into your cake pan and set on a warm place on the stove to melt. Sprinkle ½ cup if brown sugar on top of this. Place rings of pineapple in a ring around it and one in the centre. Now place a maraschino cherry (I like to use the red ones for this) in the centre of each pineapple and between each section (of course this is optional but does add color and attractiveness). Scatter a few currants also between the sections.

Make a batter of your favourite cake and pour over the top and bake in 350° oven till done.

I use the following cake batter as I do not buy cake mixes:

2 cups of flour, 2 tsps. of baking powder, ¼ tsp. salt, 1 cup white sugar, ½ cup of shortening, 1 cup of milk, 1 tsp. vanilla extract and 2 eggs.

Cream the shortening with the sugar. Add the eggs and beat well. Sift the flour, salt and baking powder three times, then mix into the creamed mixture alternately with the milk. This is not as stiff as the usual mix, but I find it pours better.

You can make this recipe larger or smaller depending on the size of the family. For just a few helpings (they usually come back for the second), I make it in one layer cake pan, but if their are a lot I make it in a large frying pan. The only trouble with that is you do need a large plate to turn it out on.

When I make it with fruit, other than pineapple, I always leave out the cherries, but never the currants. If you want it nicer yet, serve it with a caramel sauce.

I make the sauce by putting a piece of butter the size of an egg in a heavy pot on the stove, add ½ cup of brown sugar, 1 tblsp. of cornstarch. When this is all melted and browned I add boiling water till it is the consistency I want.

This sauce is very nice on a cold day poured over a plain cake just removed from the oven. Cottage pudding, umm it's good, for dessert.

In a recent issue one lady was asking for a recipe titled Grandmother's Christmas Cake. I have a recipe here that I've saved since November 24th, 1937. It was in the Free Press in Mrs. Madeline Day's column. I'm wondering if it is the same as asked for. It is too late for this Christmas, but can be saved for next. I will copy it for you.

Grandma's Christmas Cake

1 cup butter, 2 cups brown sugar, 1 cup molasses, 1 cup strong coffee, 2 cups raisins, 2 cups currants, 4 eggs, 1 tsp. soda, ¼ lb. citron peel, ¾ lb. lemon peel, 1 lb. chopped nuts, 4 cups flour, 2 tsps. baking powder, 2 tsps. cinnamon, 2 tsps. cloves, 1 tsp. nutmeg.

Method: Cream the butter and sugar, then add the molasses, sift the flour with the baking powder, spices and soda. Add the chopped fruit and mix well. Add to the first mixture with the cold coffee. Add the well beaten eggs and mix thoroughly. Turn into one or more heavy pans, lined with waxed or greased paper and bake in a slow oven.

The time depends on the size of the pans that you use, but it takes all the way from 1 to 3 hours. Test the cake before removing from the pan, for when they are rich with fruit that may look done and still be unbaked in the centre.

For those of you who might want a cake for a Valentine party or just to pretty up for Valentine Day, here is what I do. Bake a sponge cake and when it is cool, cut in the shape of a heart. Color your favorite icing a deep red (you can buy this by the bottle in several colors). It takes a teaspoonful or more. Or use a white icing and make little hearts on it with the red icing. If you have a decorating set you can write Happy Valentine on it.

I like to make my icing using icing sugar with a lump of butter. I pour a little boiling water on the butter and gradually mix in the icing sugar to the consistency I need. There is no fuss and bother to making it and it spreads well.

I'm afraid when I cook I seldom use recipes. Sort of a guess method, but it turns out well, however that would not do here at all.

Here is a sponge cake I make a lot, and it won me first prize. It is a cheap sponge cake, but nice.

Cheap Sponge Cake

3 eggs, 1 cup sifted flour, 3 tblsps. cold water, 1 cup flour, 1 tsp. baking powder, ½ lemon, grated rind and juice, ¼ tsp. salt.

Beat the yolks until thick and lemon colored. Gradually add the sugar and beat well. Add the flavoring and water. Add the stiffly-beaten whites of the eggs. Sift in the flour and carefully fold it in. After adding the flour, sponge cake should not be beaten. The lightness depends on the quantity of air beaten into the egg.

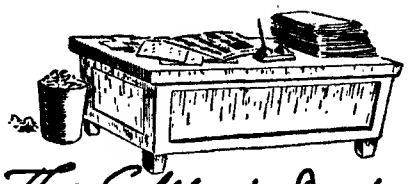
One last thing: I've only tried this lately but find it goes very well for breakfast and is very satisfying.

Cracked Wheat Porridge

Add ¼ tsp. salt to 2 cups of boiling water. Stir 1 cup of cracked wheat into this, stirring occasionally till cooked (15 to 20 minutes). We like it with brown sugar for sweetening, but others may prefer the white sugar or honey. This is the cracked wheat, please do not mistake for whole wheat flour. It is very nourishing.

Well, bye for now.





The Editor's Desk

Jim Hannaford, retired farmer and peripatetic motorist, with Mrs. Hannaford, is enjoying the warm climate of El Centro, California. Another of his literary contributions appear in this issue.

* * *

The price of bread in Calgary went up to 18c a loaf, an increase of 1c. That is a 5% increase. The bakers showed surprising unanimity in raising the price. Wheat hasn't gone up a single cent.

* * *

In the editorial "Curbing Inflation Will be Unpopular", the percentages of the annual declines in the monies of various nations was obtained from the National City Bank of New York.

* * *

The manager of an Alberta turkey hatchery informed me that he gets more results from an advertisement in The Farm and Ranch than from ads. in any other farm publication.

* * *

The Calgary Exhibition and Stampede board was smart in obtaining the services of Fred Kennedy for the position of publicity executive. That's a rather high-sounding title for Freddie, but he'll fill the bill in fine style. For years Fred has been agricultural editor of the Calgary Herald, and he did a competent job there. He is widely known in farm and ranch circles, has a good grasp of all branches of agriculture, and is a personable individual.

* * *

Roy Marler, of Bremner, Alta., who has been president of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture for ten years, announced at the annual convention that he would not accept the position for the ensuing year. By that action the farm movement in this province lost a good man.

Mr. Marler, in the first place, is a successful farm operator. Then he is a good speaker, is a man of keen discernment, and has plenty of courage. He is not the demagogic type of farm leader and occasionally his utterances did not go down so well. But Mr. Marler is the type of leader who says what he thinks. I think the farm movement lost a good man when Roy Marler retired.

* * *

"Why don't you go to church?" a minister asked of a non-churchman.

"Well, I'll tell you — the first time I went they threw water in my face. The next time they tied me to a woman I've had to keep ever since —"

"And the next time you go," the minister interrupted, "at your rate of attendance they'll throw dirt in your face."

* * *

TORONTO VERSUS CHICAGO

The Editor :

I note your editorial on Complications in the Wheat King Award. The Royal Winter Fair offers the only world grain awards in North America. The International Grain and Hay Show offers championships in grain and references to these as world titles are mistakes. I prefer to refer to the awards in Toronto as world championships and those in Chicago as international championships.

Exhibition at the Royal Winter Fair is from countries outside of North America. As you know Scottish oats have given us some trouble with the world oat crown. I believe that we should look on these shows as a good means of advertising Alberta's grain and other farm products. — R. L. Pharis, Supervisor, Crop Improvement Service, Edmonton.

* * *

A MESSAGE FROM VICTORIA, B.C.

The Editor :

Would you say "Hello" in your "Review", to an old friend from pioneer days, Frank Eagon ? I know he would be very pleased.

Frank has a wonderful memory of those early experiences at Bassano, across the river at Favor and Duchess. He came to Calgary as a young man, from Ohio. Drifted on to the town of Bassano. Always loved horses.

He has been up here visiting with us, and enjoying talks of the wide open spaces around Duchess when Sam Howe and Rod McLeay and Anchor P ran stock all over the country. Drift fences.

Brooks was pretty small, too, when we first saw it in 1917. Some remarkable people have come and gone since the great plains came alive. Some day it will be written up by a good "yarner". As F. O. and I were saying though, "The sources of the original yarns and happenings will have gone." Too bad.

Well, our mother certainly rated a top spot with the pioneer mothers of Canada. Coming from England to the wilds must have taken some courage for parents. Dad never did become a farmer. But we are glad they came, any way. The old Sheldrake gang!

While Bill was out here from Brooks we realized how much the west owed to men like you and Ben Plummer. Real good guys. That Wheat Pool organization saved our bones many a time.

Hope Southern Alberta puts on a good show for the balance of the winter. She can be awful nice! — F. O. Eagons of Hillsboro, Oregon; Fred Sheldrakes and Larsons and Roedlers of Victoria, 4205 Glenford Ave., Victoria, B.C.

An evangelist was exhorting his hearers to flee the wrath to come. "I warn you," he thundered, "there will be weeping and wailing and the gnashing of teeth!"

At this point an old lady stood up and shouted : "Sir—I have no teeth!"

"Madam," roared the evangelist, "that won't save you — teeth will be provided!"

$3,000 In PRIZES

Contest Rules

1. Your car or truck licence must contain ONE of the following numbers — 1-5 or 8.
2. Send in the complete licence number for your car or truck by listing it in the blank space left in the coupon. Only 1956 licence numbers will qualify for entry in the contest.
3. To be eligible your entry must be postmarked not later than March 5th, 1957.
4. Prizes will be alloted as follows: Of the first 50 entries one draw will be made and the lucky contestant whose name is drawn will receive their choice of a brand new Vacuum Cleaner or a three-brush Floor Polisher valued at $39.50.

   In addition, 5 names will be drawn and the contestants selected will receive a $25.00 reduction, good on the purchase of either of these machines.
5. Of the next 100 entries received, 20 names will be drawn and the lucky winners will receive a $20.00 reduction on the purchase of either of these machines. Of the remainder every 10th entry will be drawn to qualify for a $10.00 reduction on either of these machines.

Take advantage of this contest to acquire a Vacuum or Floor Polisher at an unbelievably low price.

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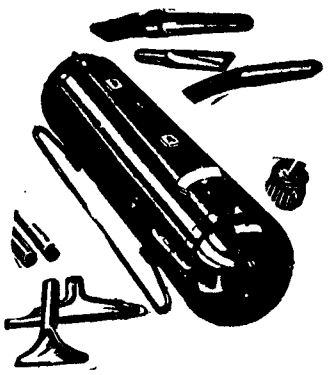
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LIST YOUR LICENCE NUMBER HERE

Early Landmarks Of Edmonton

By BEATRICE CLINK

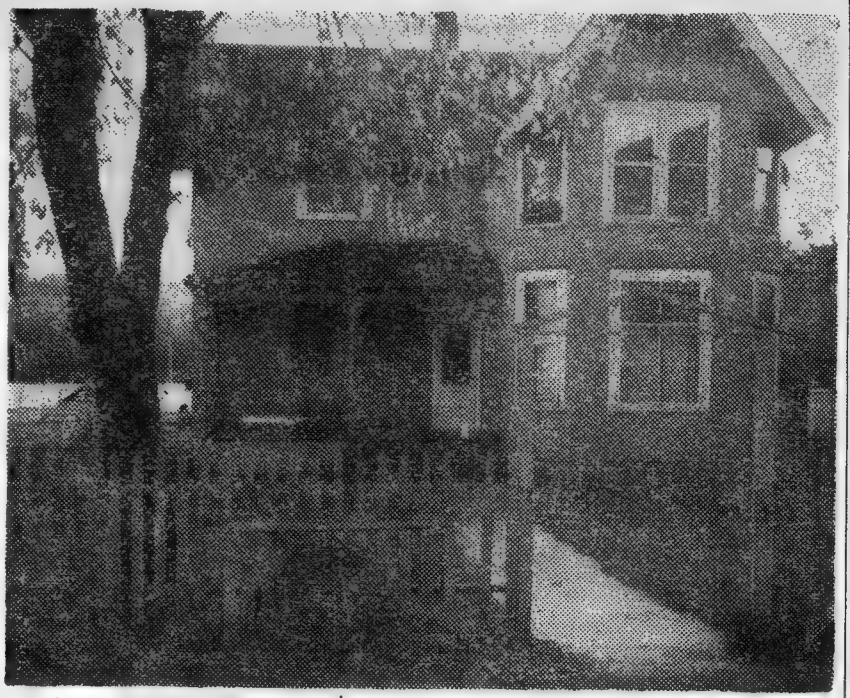
IN this century of expansion for Alberta when our cities and towns are fast changing their appearance, old landmarks are vanishing and soon there will be no traces left of our early colorful beginnings. More could be done, we feel, to preserve these for the future before they are completely obliterated.

Last autumn a friend and I took a very interesting walk along the river bank in Edmonton. Starting from the south end of the 105th Street bridge, we went west looking up the remains of some of the early landmarks of Walterdale.

A little path wound through the trees, splendid with their golden and scarlet-tinged leaves. Through the thinning trees, the warm October sunshine glinted on the river flowing swiftly and noiselessly by. A trio of small boys strangely like Tom Sawyer and his pals — were fishing on a sand bar with homemade fishing rods. A smell of smoke was in the air from the little fire of sticks where they had roasted their catch on the coals.

Walking along the river, we came to an old log house, the oldest inhabited dwelling in Edmonton, built long ago by that pioneer Scottish boat builder, John Walter. It served as headquarters for the ferryman and a stopping house for travellers while Walter repaired their wagons and harness. With its squared whitewashed logs and steep shingled roof, it stands today, sturdy and strong, in spite of its century of life and many changing occupants.

In front of it through an opening in the trees, an old road angles down the riverbanks in a north-easterly direction. This marks the spot where the Walter ferry, The Belle of Edmonton, used to take on passengers for its run across the river to Edmonton. It was the first cable ferry west of Winnipeg



J. Walter built this house in 1901. He died therein in 1920.

and had taken over a year to build. It made its first run April 22, 1882, and continued to serve cross-river traffic for over twenty years. Nothing but a few rotting planks and the ruts of an old trail down to the river mark the spot today.

Three years after launching the ferry at Waltedale, Walter helped start the one at Fort Saskatchewan. Following this, all the ferries operated by the government of the Northwest Territories were built at Walterdale.

Walking through the mud and stones left here by low water, we saw upstream from the ferry road, portions of an old river steamboat, The Strathcona, protruding from the sand. This old side-wheeler once plied up and down the busy river as far east as Lloydminster, with lumber and other goods for the early settlers.

Early Business Enterprises

Slightly above the ruined derelict we observed the ends of rotten piles that once anchored a log boom for the Walter sawmill. Close by was the spot from where saw-logs were jackladdered up from the river to the busy mill above to be made into lumber. Only a rust-corroded section of a discarded boiler and a crumbling concrete foundation mark the site of one of the first sawmills in Edmonton.

His years of building boats from whip-sawed lumber, a slow and arduous process, caused Walter to set up a saw-mill at the first opportunity. His first was a tiny establishment, but in 1893, together with William Humberstone he bought the mill machinery of Moore and McDowell. In later years the mill cut as many as 16,000,000 board feet annually. Lumber from the mill was disposed of wholesale and on occasion was rafted down the river as far east as the Saskatchewan border.

A little farther west along the river the remains of another concrete foundation mark the spot where the once flourishing Strathcona tannery operated by F. Bedard stood. In 1891 this man, an experienced tanner, left a successful tannery business in Minnesota to come with his two sons to pan gold out of the sands of the Saskatchewan river. After a few months of fruitless effort at this, he purchased a two-acre tract of land along the river-bank and erected the first tannery in Alberta. It commenced operations November 11, 1896, as The Strathcona Tannery, developing a trade that extended far into the north and as far west as British Columbia. The flood of 1915 left the tannery in ruins.

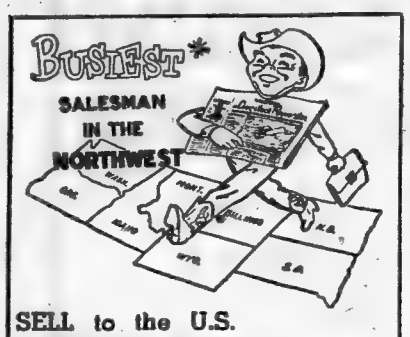
Ahead and almost under the High Level Bridge, we found the large frame house, now yellow stucco, erected by John Walter in 1901. Here after a long and colorful life this pioneer boatloader, ferryman, lumberman, and later, alderman of Strathcona, died December 25, 1920.

Born in the Orkney Islands, August 12, 1850, he came in 1869, to Edmonton as a boat builder for the Hudson's Bay Company. He came to Canada by a sailing vessel which took 8 weeks to reach York Factory on Hudson's Bay. From there he travelled four months by boat, oxcart and pony cart to reach his destination.

He remained in the service of the company for five years building York boats which every spring took the furs down the Saskatchewan River to the Eastern posts of the company.

In 1876 he left the service of the Company and shortly after took up his homestead, River Lot 7, an area from the river south to University Avenue — property now worth a fortune. He later began building boats for the Hudson's Bay Company under contract. The lumber for these boats was all whip-sawed. They were large boats fitted for oars and an arrangement for sails used in crossing lakes. He constructed from 4 to 6 boats each year. As an adjunct to his ferry, he also opened a wagon repair shop.

These enterprises were quite profitable until some time before the rebellion of 1885 when business became



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dull. At the outbreak of the rebellion, his knowledge of boatbuilding was valuable and he became prosperous, building for the military forces.

Coming of the Railway

He was married in 1886 to Miss Annie Newby of Yorkshire, England, and following his marriage, he built another and a larger log house immediately to the west of the first one. It was here their two sons, John and Stanley, were born. While living here, when the C.P.R. reached Strathcona in 1891, Walter shipped the first carload of cattle south over this railway — the price, three cents a pound. The railway was a godsend to the man who had previously made three trips to Winnipeg by ox-cart and horse-cart, each trip occupying six months.

The Klondike Gold Rush brought many would-be miners to Edmonton to outfit before setting out on the Overland Trail for the Yukon. This gave Mr. Walter a great impetus in business and a well-earned prosperity. Walter's large frame house near where the High Level Bridge now stands was erected in 1901 and a time of prosperity followed for the Walterdale Mill and Mill Shop. As many as eleven carloads of lumber were shipped by rail in one day to different parts of Alberta.

There had been the occasional losses due to high waters and breaks in the boom but the flood of 1915 brought the ruin of all his lifetime of work.

The sight of his lumber piles floating away down the North Saskatchewan did not prevent John Walter from being everywhere that memorable day with his horse and buggy helping to rescue the unfortunate settlers of the Flats.

An old man then, he had come up the hard way, working at useful tasks, living honorably, and befriending his fellow men whenever the opportunity presented itself. During his lifetime, he had witnessed the whole period of development in Alberta from the days of the isolated furposts to the days of prosperous and modern cities. He served on the first school board in Strathcona and was an alderman the first year after the city was incorporated. It is fitting today that this community, Walterdale, bears his name.

We walked on under the trestles of the High Level Bridge to the old red brick house — all that is left of a brickyard which flourished here in the 1900's. The Pollard brothers, Frank and John, established a brickyard on land they purchased from Larry Garneau and employed at one time about 50 men. Bricks from this yard were used to build Holy Trinity Church and St. Anthony's on the South Side. The ground floor of the Pollard house was used, in its heydey, as a kitchen and dining-hall for the crew of men working in the brickyard. The business never rose from the ruin caused by the great flood of 1915. The red brick house, now a dwelling house, has stood up to the ravages of time better than the other old landmarks.

Early Coal Mine

Following a southeasterly path up the hillside to a point opposite 108 Street, we found the last relic, the rotting remains of the pithead entrance of the Walter-Ross Coal Mine. The Strathcona Coal Company operated this for five years with a crew of 25 men. A disastrous fire destroyed the buildings at the Pithead causing the death of the men who were on shift at the time—six in number. The mine was opened again for a time but finally abandoned March 31, 1911.

As we left Walterdale, we climbed the hill by the road under Saskatchewan Drive. This first cross river road ran through Walter's homestead following an old buffalo trail down what is now 106A Street. We were loath to leave this little community for we felt it was a link to the past — to the days of the pioneers, the days of the boat builders and river boats and the days when Edmonton was young. Before they vanish completely, may something be done to preserve these landmarks for future generations!

NEW DURUM WHEAT

There is likely to be an increase in acreage under Durum wheat in southern Manitoba and southeastern Saskatchewan this year, due to the introduction of a new variety, Ramsey, which has proven, over the past three years, to be resistant to 15B stem rust. The acreage under Durum in the areas mentioned has declined from 500,000 in 1950 to 25,000 in 1956 because of rust. Ramsey is being licensed for sale but the supply is limited and the Catelli Durum Institute believes that the increase in acreage in the regions mentioned above will not be more than 10,000 acres.

Last year Manitoba had only 15,000 acres under Durum, Saskatchewan 1,100,000 and Alberta 535,000, making a total of 1,650,000, compared with 694,000 acres seeded to Durum in the three provinces the previous year. Production in 1956: Manitoba, 300,000; Saskatchewan, 27,000,000, and Alberta, 16,000,000, a total of 43,300,000 bushels, compared with 17,295,000 in 1955.

The 1956 oat crop in the United States is estimated at 1,152,652,000 bushels, down 351,000,000 bushels from 1955. It is expected that surplus Canadian oats will find a larger market there than was the case last year.

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9:00 — 9:05
10:00 — 10:05
11:00 — 11:05
THE WORLD TODAY
12:15 — 12:50 p.m.
FACTS ABOUT FARMING
1:20 — 1:35 p.m.
P.M. NEWS...
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"IT'S ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"



Walter R. Crow,
New Superintendent, Alberta Wheat Pool.

Pool Appointment

The Alberta Wheat Pool has announced the appointment of Walter R. Crow, of Lethbridge, to the position of divisional superintendent. Mr. Crow will be in charge of Wheat Pool elevator operations in "D" division covering the area between Calgary and Edmonton and the Peace River country.

Mr. Crow was born in Munro, Oregon, but was raised in southern Alberta. He was educated in Carmangay, Barons and Lethbridge. He joined the Wheat Pool as an agent at Diamond City in 1919, and was made travelling superintendent in 1949. Mr. and Mrs. Crow will now reside in Calgary.

R A. Walsh, Pool agent at Warner, replaces Mr. Crow as travelling superintendent at Lethbridge.



G. L. Harrold,
Heads Alberta Federation of Agriculture.

Argentina's 1956 wheat crop may be about 250,000,000 bushels, compared with 193,000,000 in 1955. The carryover was 52,000,000 bushels.

* * *

The Australian wheat crop is estimated at 130,000,000 bushels, compared with 195,000,000 in 1955. The carryover Nov. 1, when the Australian crop year ended, was 96,800,000 bushels.

* * *

Japan estimates it will import 23,561,000 bushels of wheat from Canada this crop year, also 8,290,000 bushels of barley. From the U.S. it expects to take 13,275,000 bushels of wheat and 4,321,800 of barley. From Australia the estimate is 2,936,000 bushels of wheat and 10,584,000 bushels of barley.

CANADIAN ELEVATOR STORAGE

The storage capacity of Canada's licensed grain elevators as at Dec. 1, 1955, was 599,324,960 bushels. By provinces, in bushels :

Maritime provinces	7,299,300
Quebec	27,912
Ontario	152,939,210
Manitoba	56,865,800
Saskatchewan	198,698,550
Alberta	132,726,500
British Columbia	22,964,600

* * *

Acreage seeded to winter wheat in the United States is 36,800,000, the smallest since 1913. The drop from last year is 15%.

* * *

The wheat acreage in Australia in 1956 was only 8,000,000, down 2,000,000 from the previous year. The yield per acre is down from the average of 19 bushels and the nation's marketable surplus will likely be 50,000,000 bushels less than the previous year.

* * *

A field infested with wild oats was cleaned up in three years at the Brandon Experimentl Farm, through the seeding of Vantage barley on May 10. The stubble for each crop was prepared by shallow plowing in the autumn followed by thorough preseeding tillage in the spring.

* * *

The United States expects to export 400,000,000 bushels of wheat this crop year, and the figure may run as high as 440,000,000. Canada's largest export for a single year was 407,564,000 bushels in the 1928-29 crop year.

* * *

Pool Membership No. 100,000

A MILESTONE in Alberta Wheat Pool history was passed on January 4, 1957, when membership No. 100,000 was issued to a young Peace River farmer, Arthur Prowd of Woking.

Membership numbers have been issued consecutively since the first contract was signed in 1923. The first 60,000 numbers went to members who signed the first and second series marketing agreements. The succeeding numbers have been issued to members who have qualified under amendments to the Wheat Pool Act in 1939. The figure of 100,000 therefore represents approximately the number of people who have belonged to the Wheat Pool since its inception. When Mr. Prowd's membership became effective on January 4th, the actual number of members stood at 48,659, owing to the cancellations resulting from retirements and deaths. Of the present membership only 27 per cent were first or second series contract signers.



Arthur Prowd,
100,000th member Alberta Wheat Pool

AREAS OF THE PROVINCES

The federal geographic board has accepted a revised figure of the area of Manitoba, giving that province 251,000 square miles as against a previous figure of 246,512. Quebec is Canada's largest province with 594,800 square miles, Ontario is next with 412,582, Alberta third with 255,285, Saskatchewan fourth with 251,700, and then comes Manitoba with 251,000. The largest state in the U.S. is Texas with 263,398 square miles.

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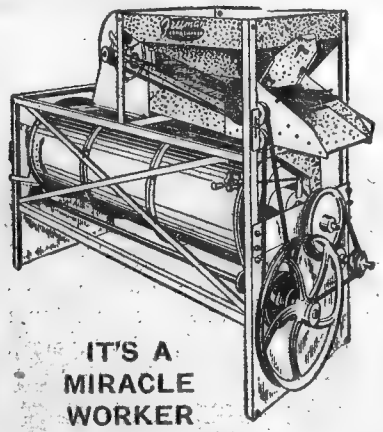
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U.S.-BRAZILIAN SURPLUS DEAL

The United States has completed a deal with Brazil for the sale of surplus farm products to the value of $138,700,000. Included in the deal: 66 million bushels of wheat valued at $11 million; 15,000 metric tons of lard, valued $5,000,000; dairy products to the value of $2.2 million; vegetable oils to the value of $1½ million. The U.S. will pay the cost of transportation, some $19,000,000, to be repaid later by Brazil. The whole deal is on a credit basis with payment to be made in Brazilian funds.

F. W. RANSOM PASSES

Fawcett W. Ransom, pioneer Manitoba farmer, and enthusiastic supporter of the farm co-operative movement, died at his home in Winnipeg on January 23rd. Born in England he came to Canada when 15 years old and to Manitoba two years later, where he subsequently operated a farm at Mountainside, in the Turtle mountain district. He was the first secretary of the former Manitoba Wheat Pool, which later became Manitoba Pool Elevators, retiring therefrom in 1949. He was a public-spirited man and occupied many positions in the public service.

The Short Grass Area

Senator F. W. Gershaw, of Medicine Hat, pioneer medical practitioner of Southern Alberta, has pursued the interesting hobby of collecting early historical material of Western Canada and particularly Southern Alberta. Much of this is included in a book entitled "The Short Grass Area", written by the senator. It provides interesting reading. Condensed extracts therefrom are as follows :

The first white woman in the west came from the Orkney Islands disguised as a man, in 1806. The first real pioneer woman was Mrs. Jean Legiononere who came west with her husband from Quebec in 1807.

On October 11, 1754, Anthony Henday, employed by the Hudson's Bay Co., came to Alberta and crossed its southern plains, the first white man to reach this area.

Henry Kellsey was the first man to see the great buffalo herds. In 1692 he reached Manitoba and saw thousands of the giant animals near the Red Deer River. The buffalo had almost disappeared in 1880.

John McDougall, among the first missionaries, started the work among the Indians in 1862. He perished in a blizzard in 1917.

Father Lacombe came to Alberta when the population of Edmonton was 150. He worked among all the tribes of the Blackfoot confederacy. He died at the age of 89.

The first detachment of the Northwest Mounted Police reached Fort Macleod in 1873.

Fort Walsh was built in the Cypress Hills in 1875. Fort Chesterfield was built near Empress where a battle was fought between the Blackfeet and invading Missouri Indians, the latter being defeated.

Chapters deal with the North West Mounted Police, historic sites, stories of frontier days, early ranch life, the remittance men, the building of the C.P.R., homesteaders, irrigation development, place names, historic localities, and a variety of other subjects.

This is a most interesting book and Senator Gershaw has made a real contribution to the historic annals of the country.

"How's Henry gettin' along at school, John ?"

"Not so well. They're learnin' him to spell taters with a P."

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CALGARY

Western Farm Organizations In Conflict

By the Editor

FOR a time it looked as though Manitoba would be the first of the western provinces to witness an amalgamation between the Farmers' Union group and the provincial Federation of Agriculture. But the expectation has been somewhat dimmed by dissention in the negotiating committee. The Federation people claim that meetings were packed by the M.F.U. and resolutions passed which are unfavorable to their side. There is disagreement on the M.F.U. determination to exclude farm co-operative representation on any united body.

The Saskatchewan Situation

The annual meeting of the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union witnessed some stormy scenes. The membership has dropped from 49,000 in 1954 to 8,000 as at last December, and a deficit of $32,000 was experienced last year. President Chris Hansen and Vice-President Olaf Turnbull were re-elected. Mr. Hansen proposed that an effort should be made to amalgamate with the Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture in a new organization.

J. L. Phelps, the previous president, who brought about separation with the Federation, was the stormy petrel of the convention. He accused Hansen and Turnbull with wrecking the Farmers' Union through "toadling up" to the farmers co-operatives, and suggested that if this line of action was continued he would launch another farm organization.

Phelps also accused Hansen and Turnbull with putting on a cocktail party while on a delegation to Ottawa and so dragging the Farmers' Union in the gutter, as "Ottawa is not the place for farmer delegations to flirt around."

Olaf Turnbull explained that the delegation had been invited to a party for agricultural attaches from Great Britain and other countries and, as a gesture of goodwill, had invited some of the press and radio men to a modest affair. He suggested that Mr. Hansen's character had been defamed by Mr. Phelps and an apology should be forthcoming, but Mr. Phelps had disappeared from the convention and no action was taken.

The convention tabled a resolution for amalgamation with the Federation of Agriculture but passed one instructing the Interprovincial Farmers' Union council to draft a constitution for a National Farmers' Union, which would include all provincial farm unions.

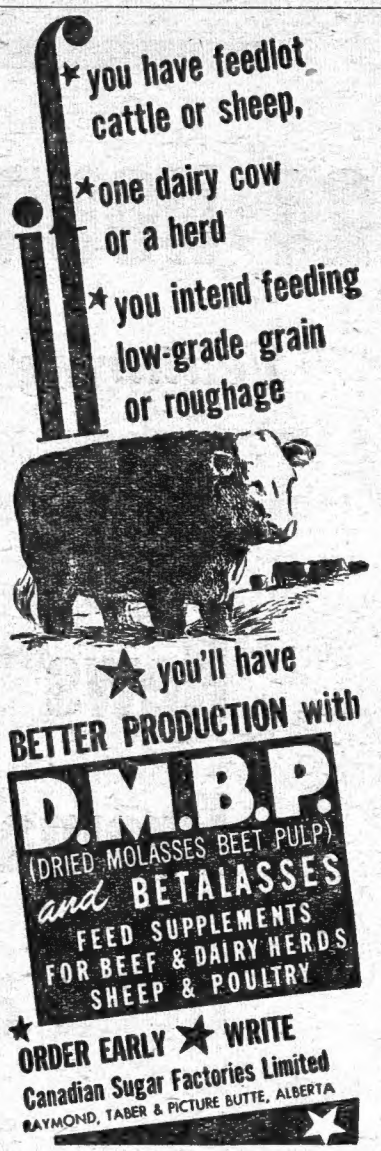
The convention also took the stand that the farmer co-operatives, in making public statements and passing resolutions, do not always present the farm viewpoint, and should form a federation of their own and let the Farm Unions have the field in expressing farm opinion.

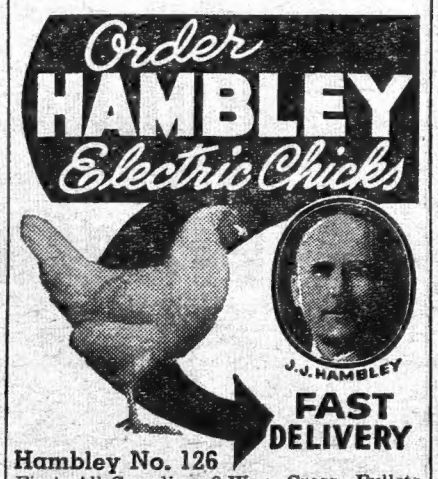
The Alberta Viewpoint

In Alberta President A. W. Platt, of the Alberta Farmers' Union, suggested the uniting of farm groups to achieve common action in the federal field. He said both the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Interprovincial Farm Union had made worthwhile contributions but neither is capable of doing the job that has to be done. "I am prepared to fight anyone in the interest of farmers' rights," said Mr. Platt, "but I am not prepared to organize one group of farmers to fight another group."

There has been a better relationship between the Federation and the Farmers' Union in Alberta, nevertheless the Union convention passed a resolution making it optional whether or not the A.F.U. should belong to the Alberta Federation. The convention also empowered the board to open negotiations for the formation of a western co-ordinating council made up of 13 members, two from each provincial Farmers' Union and two from each provincial Federation of Agriculture, with one woman representative appointed by the Interprovincial Farm Union Council.

The feeling of the convention was that eventually a national body will be set up to represent all agriculture and to take the place of both the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Interprovincial Farm Council.





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In 1946, Canada's proven oil reserves were 72 million barrels. Today, there are almost three billion barrels, a 40-fold increase.

In 1946, there were just 435 miles of oil pipe line in all Canada. Today, there are more than 5,000 miles.

In 1946, there were half a million oil-heated homes in Canada. Today, there are more than a million and a half, 40 percent of all the homes in Canada.

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When Imperial Leduc No. 1 "came in" on February 13, 1947, the elated crew knew they had made an important discovery. What they couldn't know was just *how* important their discovery was, for Imperial Leduc No. 1 encouraged not only Imperial but hundreds of other companies to look for . . . and to find . . . more oil in Canada.

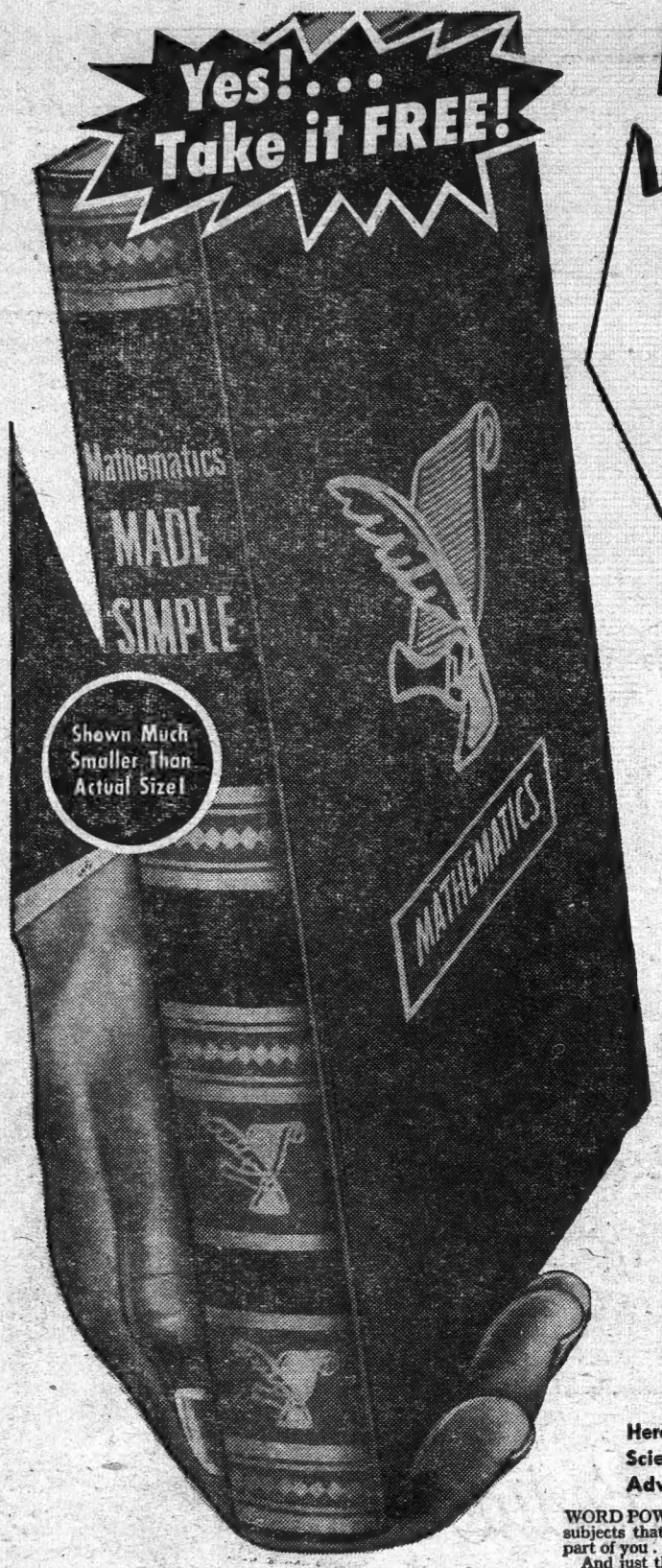
What were the results?

- A fast-growing oil producing industry, employing thousands.
- New refineries, and expansion of old ones.
- Birth of dozens of new industries.
- Large savings of foreign exchange that would have been spent on oil imports.
- A surer supply of oil for Canada.

Nor has this development reached its peak. Though about four billion dollars have already been invested in finding and developing Canadian oil, experts predict another 20 billion will be spent during the next 25 years, bringing us still more industries, more jobs, and, of course, more oil.

Leduc's birthday was a happy day for us all!

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Complete Explanations, Simple Illustrations Make Every Point Clear—No Previous Knowledge of the Subject Required

Let's take a look at one of the books and see how the Made Simple method makes every point absolutely clear by using simple, everyday illustrations as examples.

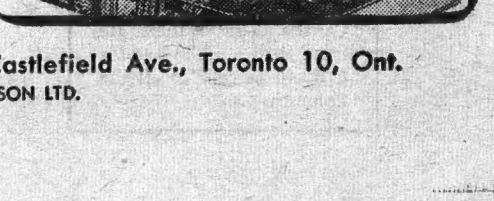
In PHYSICS MADE SIMPLE, in the section on air pressure, you see this experiment which you can do right now in your own home: "Hold one edge of a piece of letter paper against your chin just below your lower lip, with the paper hanging over and down. If you now blow above the paper, it will rise to a horizontal position as if pulled upward in the air stream." You see, just by using a piece of paper, you have performed an experiment that demonstrates the important principles involved in flight and streamlining.

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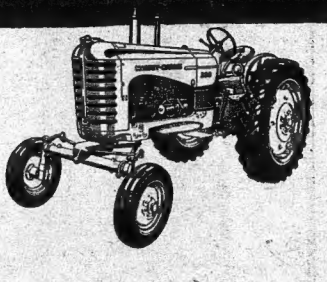
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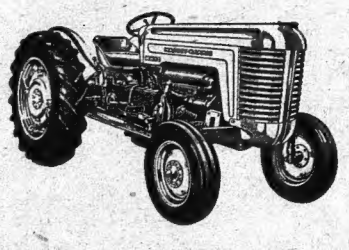
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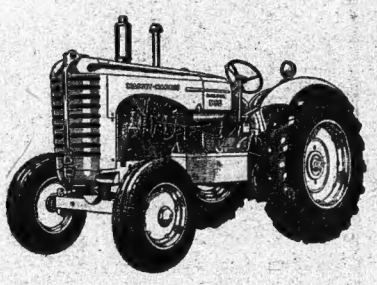


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